

# Jordan Times

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## Reagan calls for NATO modernisation

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Saturday the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) must modernise its military forces to negotiate arms reductions with the Soviet Union from a position of strength. Reagan, in his weekly radio address, said the Soviet Union would not have agreed to the intermediate nuclear forces (INF) treaty signed in December if the United States had not deployed intermediate-range missiles in Europe. "The lesson learned: One must always negotiate with the Soviets from a position of strength," he said. Reagan said he and other NATO leaders had agreed at their meeting this week in Brussels on a set of priorities for further arms reduction negotiations with Moscow. "Our highest priorities are first, to negotiate a 50 per cent reduction in strategic arms; second, to address the fact that the Warsaw Pact conventional forces arrayed offensively along the iron curtain far outnumber NATO's; and third, to address the problems created by the continuous Soviet maintenance of the world's largest chemical weapons arsenal," he said.

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## Rifai briefs Cabinet on U.S. proposals

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai briefed the Cabinet Saturday on the messages carried by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to His Majesty King Hussein regarding the latest ideas to push forward the Middle East peace process. During a Cabinet meeting, the prime minister also reported on contacts carried out by the King with Arab parties including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, aimed at achieving a coordination of the Arab position vis-a-vis the peace process in the area. During the meeting, the Cabinet also approved a draft law on the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

## Israelis kill 'infiltrator'

SIDON (R) — Israeli troops killed a Palestinian commando and wounded another trying to infiltrate Israel from South Lebanon, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Saturday. A PLO statement said three fighters planning to launch an attack inside Israel were spotted by troops patrolling a self-declared "security zone" along the border Friday night. "The commandos clashed with the Israelis with all kinds of weapons until the early hours of Saturday," it said. The statement said Bassam Hifawi was killed but his two companions escaped, one of them with bullet wounds in the leg. It said there were several Israeli casualties.

## Anti-Israeli protest in Cyprus

NICOSIA (AP) — About 200 Greek Cypriots and Arabs demonstrated outside the Israeli embassy Friday against the treatment of Palestinians in the occupied territories. It was the third anti-Israeli demonstration in the capital in as many weeks. About 100 riot police ringed the embassy to prevent repetition of the stoning of the building in the previous demonstrations. Strands of barbed wire sealed off all approaches to the embassy. The demonstrators, men, women and children, gathered in the capital's central Eleftheria square before marching to the embassy about three kilometres away. The column was headed by people carrying a Palestinian and a Cypriot flag joined together. They chanted slogans and carried placards proclaiming: "Israel — murderers of children." "Solidarity for the people of Palestine," and "Stop the killing."

## Iraqi ex-PoWs say they were tortured

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi prisoners of war released last month by Iran said Saturday they were beaten and tortured during five years in captivity. Ten of them told a news conference they were freed because most were suffering the effects of torture or malnutrition. "They were dumping our bodies in ice up to the neck and leaving us like that for more than one hour," said Kadhim Muheisin Hafidi, 38. The 10 were among 28 Iraqis freed under an exchange organised by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

## INSIDE

- Militia chief urges foreigners to leave Lebanon, page 2
- FAO sets up regional centre in Jordan, page 3
- Balance of payments reflects 'healthy deficit', page 4
- Human rights — a utopia comes true, page 5
- Liverpool nudges 14-year-old record, page 6
- Amman stock market expects boost, page 7
- Pakistan suggests delaying signing of Afghan accord, page 8

## Israeli troops kill 2 more Palestinians, renew mass arrests

JELAZOUN REFUGEE CAMP, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead two Palestinians in a West Bank village Saturday and wounded several in the Gaza Strip during widespread protests in the occupied territories, Palestinian sources said.

Helicopter-borne troops raided Jelazoun refugee camp near Ramallah, angering United Nations relief workers when they commandeered a U.N. school to hold prisoners. About 50 Palestinians, blindfolded and with their hands bound, were held at the school run by the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) before being taken by bus to an unknown destination, relief workers said. "They have used U.N. property as a prison camp. I have protested this. I am more than upset — I am angry," UNRWA official Mogens Fokdal told Reuters.

An Israeli army spokesman said troops opened fire in Dahariyeh village, south of Hebron, but could not confirm the deaths. Staff at Jerusalem's Makassed hospital and Alia hospital in Hebron told Reuters a body had been recovered at each.

Palestinian sources named the dead men as Nahel Wridat, 25, and Raseem Al Khdeirat, 31.

The latest deaths brought to at least 83 the number of Palestinians killed since the uprising in the occupied territories began Dec. 9.

The sources said anti-Israeli demonstrations erupted in several towns, villages and Palestinian refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza.

Military authorities appeared to have dropped restrictions on press access to the occupied territories and Reuters correspondents and photographers said they were allowed to travel freely throughout the area.

At least four people were wounded in Khan Yunis in the Gaza Strip when troops opened fire on stone-throwing demonstrators, the sources said. In Ramallah, stone-throwing Palestinians clashed with soldiers who fired tear-gas and Israel Radio said troops rounded up all the male adults in the Arab-Jerusalem neighbourhood of Jabal Mukaber, arrested three and warned the others to keep the peace.

Fokdal said troops fired tear-gas in Jelazoun refugee camp and destroyed property in people's homes as they rounded up suspects, including at least one UNRWA staff member.

Nine Palestinians were arrested Saturday in Araba, a village 75 kilometres north of Jerusalem, where troops killed one and wounded another Palestinian during a violent demonstration Friday.

An army spokesman said the Jelazoun and Araba arrests had been made to protect camp residents suspected of collaborating with the Israelis.

"People were threatened and we came in to protect them..." the spokesman said.

Last week, an angry crowd lynched an alleged collaborator in the West Bank village of Khabatiyeh and Palestinians employed by Israeli authorities in the occupied territories have been advised to quit.

In Tunis, a senior PLO official said about 2,000 Israeli troops were involved in the airborne operation against Jelazoun.

Bassam Abu Sharif, an adviser to Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat, said that during house-to-house searches, "the soldiers beat the people, children, women and men, with sticks and rifle butts, throwing food into the mud and breaking furniture."

## Proposal said to include international conference

## Shultz returns home to await response to Mideast peace plan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz returned to Washington from the Middle East Saturday after handing Arab states and Israel a U.S. proposal for peace in the region.

Shultz arrived from Cairo, his last stop on a gruelling nine-day tour of Middle Eastern states that also included visits to London and Brussels.

Shultz told reporters Friday he had given letters containing the new U.S. negotiating plan to the leaders of Jordan, Israel, Syria and Egypt.

The plan calls for an "international Middle East peace conference" next month to be followed by negotiations starting in May on an interim period of "self-rule" for Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Under the proposal, Arab-Israeli talks would start in December on the final status of the occupied territories. If an agreement is reached, it would come into effect three years after the interim phase of Palestinian "self-rule" begins.

Shultz said Arab and Israeli leaders had agreed to reply to the U.S. proposals within a week and a half — that is, before Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir begins an official visit to Washington.

Israel's coalition government is split over the U.S. initiative, with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of the Labour Party more receptive than Shamir.

The United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France — the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — would be sponsors for the proposed international conference, said a U.S. official, as Shultz's plane refuelled in Ireland.

None of the sponsors would have veto power over the outcome, the official said, speaking to the AP on condition of anonymity.

The most positive Arab response to Shultz's peace efforts has come from Egypt. President

Hosni Mubarak called the new proposals encouraging.

"I am very encouraged by your reaction and your support," Shultz told Mubarak Friday. "If we are able to keep this rolling as we want, you are going to see a lot of me here in Cairo."

Mubarak: Door should be open

Mubarak urged Middle East leaders Saturday not to reject the U.S. proposals out of hand.

"We should not close the door... we must develop our ideas to the interest of our cause and not let time pass away by our rejection," Mubarak was quoted as saying by Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA).

"The new proposals are encouraging... the ideas are constructive but we need to consult with the parties concerned,"

(Continued on page 4)

## U.S. Senate panel backs Delvalle in Panama crisis

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. Senate panel has voted unanimously to step up pressure on Panama's military chief and de facto ruler but stopped short of calling for immediate new economic sanctions to force him out of office.

In a resolution backed by the Reagan administration, the Foreign Relations Committee said Friday Eric Arturo Delvalle, ousted as president last week by military leader General Manuel Antonio Noriega, had full U.S. support in his effort to restore democracy and assert civilian control over the Panamanian government.

Panama's military-dominated National Assembly ordered Delvalle out of office in an emergency session last Friday and replaced him with Manuel Solis Palma. The shakeup came after Delvalle tried to sack Noriega.

The Panama situation "constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy and economy of the United States, and therefore (the U.S. government) should consider further measures to support democracy, including economic sanctions, in the event General Noriega continues to defy President Delvalle's lawful order," the resolution said.

Under-secretary of State Michael Armacost, who discussed the Panama crisis privately with the committee, said the administration supported the resolution, which was approved by a vote of 15-0 and sent to the full Senate for a vote.

Armacost told reporters the administration was examining various options to deal with the Panama crisis and said: "I have no doubt there will be further actions."

Panamanians faced a cashless weekend as the United States appeared ready to knock out more props from under their weak economy.

Mubarak said.

He made similar remarks after his meeting with Shultz.

Mubarak said he supported a meeting between Palestinian representatives and Shultz and offered Cairo as a venue.

"We welcome such a meeting either in an Arab or foreign country so that the two sides can understand each other," Mubarak said.

U.S. special envoy Wat Cliverius discussed the new proposals with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid Saturday but officials declined to disclose any details. Cliverius is also due to visit Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Israel.

Shamir under 'pressure'

Meanwhile Shamir is under



A representative of the manufacturers of Airbus aircraft briefs His Majesty King Hussein Saturday on the features of the new A-320 aircraft while Royal Jordanian Chairman Ali Ghandour (centre) and French Ambassador Patrick Leclercq look on (Petra photo)

## King inspects new A-320 plane

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday inspected the features and specifications of the new Airbus A-320 model aircraft. Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national carrier, has signed an agreement to lease six A-320s and delivery is expected to begin in 1990.

The King's inspection of the new type of plane came after the manufacturers flew a model of the plane to Amman for demonstration purposes.

The A-320 plane, which can carry 150 passengers, enjoys the reputation of being one of the latest aircraft and is installed with an electronic control system which makes it safer in emergen-

cies. The plane has a relatively low weight which reduces maintenance costs.

RJ is the first airline in the region to use Airbus. It has also signed a lease agreement for six A-310-300 type Airbus. The airline intends to lease five A-340s in the future.

Accompanying the King on Saturday's inspection were RJ Chairman Ali Ghandour, Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director General Mahmoud Jamal Balqaz, the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and senior RJ and CAA officials as well as French Ambassador to Jordan Patrick Leclercq.

## Mideast in focus at informal EC talks

KONSTANZ, West Germany (R) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers began informal talks here Saturday expected to focus on the Middle East, East-West relations and the 12-nation bloc's budget problems.

The 12 ministers and EC Commission President Jacques Delors, invited by West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, met in a scenic hotel on the shore of Lake Boden.

The ministers had no plans to issue statements during their two days of discussions.

Genscher met British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe for talks over dinner Friday to explain "fundamental elements of Bonn's East-West policy," a Bonn Foreign Ministry official said.

He said the ministers would focus on the Middle East problem and Israel's reluctance to agree to an international conference.

In the wake of this week's NATO summit in Brussels, which coupled a call for East-West talks on cutting conventional forces with a pledge to keep alliance nuclear weapons up to date, the EC ministers would examine the community's role in East-West relations, he added.

Genscher said in an interview with the Bonner Rundschau newspaper that last week's EC meeting with Central American countries in Hamburg and the community's statement of three weeks ago deploring Israel's violent actions against Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza undermined the EC's "worldwide responsibility for peace."

Other topics

A spokesman for West Germany, the current EC president, said Genscher would explain his ideas for creating a European central bank.

"We have to convince our partners of the necessity of a stabilising European economic policy and the necessary autonomy of a European central bank," Genscher said in the interview.

The meeting is also expected to discuss the crisis caused by Italy's refusal to accept a budget agreed at last month's summit.

"The discussions will touch on the Italian fears that they will be loaded with an unproportional share, although we are reluctant to have the foreign ministers involved in interpreting EC summit decisions," a West German official said.

## Iraq follows up missile barrage with air raids on Iranian cities

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq bombed four Iranian provincial cities Saturday after firing more missiles at Tehran in attacks it said would continue until Iran called a ceasefire.

It said its planes attacked Kashan, Dezful, Hamadan and Poldokhtar and hit seven other industrial or military targets. The targets were in the western, southwestern and central Iran.

An Iraqi military spokesman denied an Iranian report that three of the jets had been shot down. Iran said Iraqi bombing raids killed several civilians in southwestern cities.

## Two drug-trafficking rings busted in Jordan

By Jamal Halaby  
The Associated Press

AMMAN — Police have arrested four drug smugglers and seized heroin worth \$600,000 during the past week, anti-narcotics chief Colonel Ghaleb Zou'bi said Saturday.

"It was the largest shipment ever seen in the Kingdom for 18 years," Zou'bi, director of the Narcotics and Forgery Control Department, told the Associated Press.

In the same period police also arrested a five-man gang that was trying to sell 26 kilograms of hashish worth \$100,000, Zou'bi said.

He said the heroin operation, in which six kilograms of the drug was seized, involved two of Jordanians who had been previously involved in narcotics trafficking and two non-Jordanians "from neighbouring Arab countries."

Zou'bi explained that the gang was "watched for sometime after we learned from some sources that there was a drug shipment to reach the country from Turkey."

He said that his department, in cooperation with police authorities "put forward a master plan and caught the gang red-handed in the outskirts of Amman." He refused to give details of the plan.

He added after investigations, police learned that "most of the stored heroin was to be distributed to neighbouring Arab countries and Europe, with some to be kept for local use."

According to available statistics, 90 per cent of drug trafficking cases in Jordan are related to the Kingdom's being a transit point for drug shipped from Turkey to neighbouring countries, with a tiny proportion smuggled for the local market.

Zou'bi said the department arrested the other, five-man gang as it tried to sell the hashish. He said the smugglers, all Jordanians, were referred to military courts for trial.

An Iraqi military spokesman denied an Iranian report that three of the jets had been shot down. Iran said Iraqi bombing raids killed several civilians in southwestern cities.

The Iraqi spokesman said six missiles were fired at Tehran overnight and Saturday, the last at 1.40 p.m. (1040 GMT).

Iraq has hit the capital with about 30 missiles since Monday with the declared aim of making Iran accept United Nations ceasefire Resolution 598 adopted last July.

Iraqi leaders, after a meeting Saturday chaired by President Saddam Hussein, vowed the attacks would go on.

"Our missile force will continue its legitimate deterrent operations to serve the cause of durable peace, which can only be achieved by acceptance by the Iranian regime of Resolution 598," they said in a statement issued after a joint meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council and leaders of the ruling Baath Party.

"A durable peace will only be achieved after Iran's abandonment of its aggressive policy and acceptance of the resolution... that is the only clear way for peace, security and stability in the region," the statement said.

It said the "continuation of deterrent blows is a vital punishment for that criminal and blood-thirsty regime."

Iran said Saturday's missile attacks killed at least 19 people following the death of at least 15 Friday.

The attacks took Iran's casualty toll in the "war of the cities."

(Continued on page 4)

## Kuwait to buy Egyptian defence system

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait is on the verge of buying an Egyptian air defence system for protection against Iranian missile attack, political sources said Saturday.

They described the proposed deal as a breakthrough for Egyptian efforts to expand sales to the lucrative arms market in the Arab Gulf states, which reestablished diplomatic ties with Cairo last November.

Egypt is already a major supplier of missiles and guns to Iraq and helps to train Kuwaitis in the use of Soviet weaponry.

The sources said Kuwait appears to have opted for Egypt's Amoum anti-aircraft system over British, French and U.S. competition.

The proposed deal was discussed in detail last week with an Egyptian military delegation led by air force commander Major-General Ahmad Hilmi and could be finalised by mid-year, the sources added.

Kuwait began seeking ways to boost its air defences last year after repeated Silkorm missile attacks it blamed on Iran.

Military analysts say the Amoum would fill a gap in Kuwait's air defences between its short-range Soviet-made SAM 7 missiles and longer-range U.S.-made Hawks.

The sources declined to estimate the system's cost but said it was cheaper than alternatives like the French Crotale anti-aircraft missile or the British Sea Wolf.

The Amoum relies heavily on

Swiss engineering and Italian hardware and consists of a radar system, two 35-mm guns and two anti-aircraft missile launchers, the analysts said.

Prominently displayed at a recent Cairo arms fair, an improved version went on the market last year. Kuwait would be the first foreign buyer.

Western sources say Egypt's arms exports total at least \$200 million a year and are a vital source of hard currency for its hard-pressed economy.

Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abn Ghazalla visited Kuwait in December and President Hosni Mubarak made a Gulf tour the next month, vowing to ensure Arab Gulf security.

(Continued on page 4)

## Jordan, S. Arabia form joint company

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Saudi Arabia Saturday signed an agreement for setting up a company with \$50 million as capital to promote and carry out agricultural and industrial projects in the two countries.

The Amman-based Jordanian-Saudi Industrial Agricultural Company will be granted exemptions and facilities as provided for in the relevant law governing investments in Jordan.

Jordan and Saudi Arabia will have equal shares in the company, which will operate on a purely commercial basis, said Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammed Saqqaf, who signed the agreement here with Saudi Ambassador to Jordan Sheikh Mohammed Al Fahd Al Issa.

Saqqaf said the company's board of directors would meet later this month to lay down ideas and policies and plans for operations.

Ambassador Issa said a number of smaller companies and organisations would take part from the new company in agricultural fields in the two countries.



# Amni chief urges foreigners to leave Lebanon

**BEIRUT (R) —** A Sunni militia chief Saturday urged foreigners to leave Lebanon as the search continued in this South Lebanon port city for two missing Oxfam relief officials, a Briton and a Syrian.

The call by Mustapha Saad, leader of a Sunni militia which controls Sidon, came as a West German raised in Lebanon returned to Beirut only two days after being freed by kidnappers there and whisked to Damascus by Syrian troops.

"I advise all foreigners to leave Lebanon because none of the parties, people, official institutions or Palestinians could ensure protection for them," said Saad, who leads a group called the Popular Liberation Army (PLA).

Beirut witnesses said West German Ralph Schray returned to Lebanon Saturday. The 30-year-old engineer son of a Lebanese mother and West German father was seized on Jan. 27 by gunmen demanding the release of two Shi'ite Muslims held in West Germany on charges of

hijacking and abduction. His hijackers said Schray was released after personal intervention by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad had produced commitments and guarantees, which they did not specify.

But reports at the time said the man, who does not speak German, wanted to return to his home and family in mainly Muslim West Beirut.

Saad, angered by the abduction of five foreigners in the South over the past month, said the Oxfam officials, Briton Peter Coleridge and his Syrian colleague Omar Trahulsi, were held by Palestinians for investigation.

Saad played a key role last month in freeing two U.N. Scandinavian relief workers 26 days after they were seized in Sidon. Twelve days later gunmen seized U.S. Marine Colonel William

Higgins in Tyre, a few kilometers further South.

At least 26 foreigners are believed kidnapped in Lebanon. Saad said Coleridge, 44-year-old Middle East coordinator for the British-based Oxfam charity group, and Trahulsi, head of its Lebanon operations, were seized Thursday after Coleridge took pictures at the Ain Al Hilweh Refugee Camp.

Derick Bleakley, first secretary at the British embassy, told Reuters the embassy had no confirmation of Saad's report. "We are using various contacts to try to confirm this and find out certain facts on what is happening," he said.

Saad said the two men were not abducted "but held for security reasons" and expected their release soon.

He said he expected inter-Palestinian feuds to erupt inside Ain Al Hilweh, the biggest refugee settlement in Lebanon, over the kidnap epidemic that has hit the camp and which has embarrassed mainstream Palestinian officials.

Palestinian sources in Beirut told Reuters Palestinian groups had been trying since Thursday to find out what happened to the two men "because if they were taken at Ain Al Hilweh it will only harm the Palestinians."

"They did not conduct any searches on the ground but each faction used its intelligence and security apparatus to find out what happened," one source said.

He said the Palestinians were cooperating with Saad to help free the two "before the whole issue becomes more complicated."

A Muslim security source in Beirut feared the two might have been taken by Palestinian fundamentalists linked to Iran. "That is not definite yet but there are fears that the Palestinian gunmen who took the two could be linked to Muslim radicals and Iran," one source said.

Pro-Iranian militants are believed behind the abduction of most of the foreigners in Lebanon, including three Britons Terry Waite, John McCarthy and

Alec Collet. Lebanese President Amin Gemayel says his government knows where foreign hostages are being held and hopes for their release.

In an interview to be aired on Saturday on Canal Plus, a French television channel, Gemayel said: "I cannot today reveal certain secrets on the hostages, but believe me we are well informed about their fate."

Questioned on who was holding the 27 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon, the president said: "We know. We even know where they are being held."

Asked if they were alive, Gemayel said he could not reply but admitted to having "some worries" about their fate.

But, adding a note of hope, he said: "There is every reason to believe we can hope, if not a global solution, at least a partial solution."

The excerpts from the interview held in Lebanon were released in advance in Paris by Canal Plus.

## 2 U.N. accords protect PLO mission

**UNITED NATIONS (R) —** The PLO has certain privileges and immunities in the United States under the U.N. charter and other entitlements provided for in a U.S. agreement with the world body, U.N. lawyers said Friday.

The lawyers were responding to questions from reporters about the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) rights in face of U.S. legislation that would close the group's U.N. observer mission by March 21.

The General Assembly has referred the case to the World Court for an advisory opinion and called on the United States to rescind the law.

U.N. spokesman Francois Guiliani said the U.N. Legal Department was still preparing a formal brief for the World Court's consideration. PLO representative Zehdi Labib Terzi told reporters he had no doubt the court would decide in the organisation's favour.

A statement by the U.N. Legal Office meanwhile said the United Nations considered that Article 105 of the Charter, an international treaty, applied to the PLO and provided functional privileges and immunities.

For example, the statement said, the PLO could not be sued

for any remarks its representatives might make in a U.N. debate. The U.N. lawyers said the 1947 agreement with the United States that established U.N. Headquarters in New York spelled out "entitlements" for invitees of the United Nations that also applied to the PLO.

They cited section 11 of the accord, which gives those invited to participate in U.N. activities the right to enter and remain in the United States. Therefore, invitees had the right to maintain offices and living accommodations in New York, according to the statement.

After the General Assembly invited the PLO to form an observer mission in 1974, a Manhattan townhouse was purchased for about a million dollars as its headquarters. The building, now estimated to be worth \$4.5 million, could be padlocked if the United States implemented the law requiring closure.

Terzi joked with reporters that if that happened he might have to beg a bed in the U.N. Medical Centre, where PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat slept during his visit here in November 1974, which led to the invitation to form a PLO mission. The United States along with

Israel, considers the PLO a "terrorist organisation." The legislation adopted by the U.S. Congress to close the PLO mission repeated that charge.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar asked the World Court Thursday whether "the United States of America (is)... under an obligation to enter into arbitration" on the issue, said a court official, who spoke in exchange for anonymity in line with court practice.

The World Court official told the Associated Press that the court's 15 judges had been convened for a session later this month to consider the U.N. request. But he refused to divulge the exact date of the meeting, and he could not say when a ruling on the issue would be expected.

Although only sovereign states are entitled to bring contentious cases before the court, international organisations such as the United Nations and its agencies may seek "advisory opinions" on issues affecting them.

In its 43-year history, the court has issued numerous such opinions, the majority of them dealing with labour disputes between the United Nations and its employees.

## Foreign forces threaten Sudanese security — army

**HARTOUM (R) —** Sudan says its Western Darfur region, which borders Chad and Libya, has become a battlefield for regional conflicts, posing a threat to its national security.

A statement by the general command of the armed forces said troops in Darfur were under explicit orders to deal effectively with any foreign military presence on Sudanese territory.

The statement, which did not mention names, was clearly referring to the long-running conflict

between Libya and Chad. "Darfur is going through a period of insecurity and instability which is a result of regional conflicts," said the statement, broadcast over state Radio Omdurman Friday night.

"It became the battlefield for the settlement of those differences and the armed conflict has shifted to inside Sudan."

Interior Minister Sidahmad Al Hussein said Wednesday that trucks loaded with arms and belonging to the pro-Libyan Ibn

Omar militia force were moving freely in Darfur.

He said the militiamen, fighting the government of Chadian president, Hissene Habre, had set up several camps inside Sudan and had recently launched cross-border attacks from Sudan on Chadian army garrisons.

The minister also charged that Chadian troops had recently crossed the border into Sudan, while bands of armed men in Chadian army uniforms were terrorising local inhabitants.

The Chad government has complained several times in the past year to Sudan, saying it harbours Libyan-led forces.

Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi said Friday that foreign forces which had illegally entered Sudan had left. He did not identify the forces or say when they entered and left.

Mahdi's Umma Party has close ties with Libya, which has been steadily gaining influence since the 1985 overthrow of Sudanese president Jaafar Numeiri.

## Mubarak: 4 Libyan jets still in Egypt

**CAIRO (R) —** Four Libyan MiG-23 fighters which landed in Egypt Tuesday are still in the country, President Hosni Mubarak said Saturday, contradicting reports that they had returned home.

"These warplanes are still here," he was quoted as saying by Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA). "The planes will return to Libya only after being inspected by technicians," he said.

Mubarak said he had been contacted by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and other Arab leaders whom he did not name after the four Soviet-built fighter planes landed in Egypt.

He said he told them he intended to return the aircraft to Tripoli and asked them to send technicians to inspect the MiGs. He did not explain why.

"We are a civilised country, we bear no grudge against anyone and seek no bloodshed," he said. Libya's official news agency JANA reported Thursday that the pilots landed their jets in Egypt because they were running out of fuel and later flew them home.

"The news agency (JANA) is free to report what it wants," Mubarak said. MENA later published the same account and, in the absence of a government statement, this was taken as Egyptian endorsement of the JANA story.

## Israelis use U.N. school for prisoners

**JELAZOUN REFUGEE CAMP, West Bank (R) —** Israeli troops raided this Palestinian refugee camp near Ramallah in the occupied West Bank Saturday and commandeered a United Nations school to hold prisoners, angry U.N. relief workers said.

About 50 Palestinians, blindfolded and with their hands bound, were held at the school run by the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) before being

taken away by bus to an unknown destination, the workers said. "They have used U.N. property as a prison camp. I have protested this. I am more than upset — I am angry," UNRWA official Mogens Fokdal told Reuters.

He said troops fired tear gas and destroyed property inside people's homes as they rounded up suspects, including at least one UNRWA staff member. An army spokesman said the arrests had been made to protect

camp residents suspected of collaborating with the Israelis.

Last week, an angry crowd lynched an alleged collaborator in the West Bank village of Khabatayeh and Palestinians employed by Israeli authorities in the occupied territories have been advised to quit.

Jelazoun residents said a group of collaborators had confessed and asked forgiveness during Friday prayers in the camp's mosque and four local men had resigned from the Israeli-run police force.

## Iraqi missile attacks 'could undermine' embargo efforts

By Stephen Jukes  
Reuters

**BAHRAIN —** Iraq's missile blitz on Tehran could backfire diplomatically and undermine efforts to impose a U.N. arms embargo on Iran, Western diplomats have said.

"The war of the cities" raged in Iraq stepped up pressure with more missile attacks on Iran's holy city of Qom and warned it would eliminate whole cities from the map if Iran continued to reject a U.N. ceasefire demand.

U.N. Gulf-based diplomats said Iraq may have miscalculated international reaction to its targeting of civilian populations in Iran and that may delay moves to impose an arms embargo.

"The Iraqi attacks could be negative," said one diplomat, "but provides countries with an embargo with the threat of force not to agree to a U.N. resolution."

Diplomats said Iraq's decision to threaten Tehran with missiles

— it claims to have fired 25 rockets into the capital compared with 10 hits on Baghdad — appears to have been sparked by a combination of tactical and military motives.

— Frustration at Iranian refusal to comply with the original ceasefire Resolution 598 passed last July.

— Development of a medium-range ground-to-ground missile system capable of hitting Tehran for the first time in the 7½-year-old war. It is thought to be a modified version of the Soviet SCUD-B.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

— Reluctance to pursue shipping attacks against Iranian oil tankers in the Gulf after two Iraqi warplanes fired at the wrong target in February. That incurred Washington's wrath and renewed concern that U.S. warships might be rocketed in error.

Diplomats said Iraq's missile offensive could, however, cast fresh doubts on international

efforts to impose an arms embargo on Tehran which had gathered pace in recent weeks with the Soviet Union signalling it was ready to back sanctions.

A draft U.N. agreement now being negotiated by the five permanent members of the Security Council foresees imposing the embargo on Iran only since it has refused to comply with Resolution 598. Iraq has said it will comply if Tehran does.

But one diplomat said: "The score of missile attacks is running about three-to-one in Iraq's favour and that could cast Baghdad in the role of the aggressor."

And Iraq showed no sign of letting up its campaign, with its Defence Ministry newspaper Al Qadisiyah warning it would "eliminate complete Iranian cities from the map so long as the Tehran regime continues its arrogant insistence on rejecting U.N. Security Council Resolution 598."

Diplomats said even if the Security Council's five perma-

nent members — the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union and China — agree to an embargo, other member nations may be reluctant to single out Iran without imposing sanctions on Iraq.

But that it turn would be unacceptable to the Soviet Union and France, both of whom are major arms suppliers to Baghdad.

The reluctance of some U.N. members to back an embargo may also be increased by the fact that both Iran and Iraq seem to be firing the same Soviet missile at each other, the SCUD-B.

Iraq has said it has developed its own missiles, but Western military experts doubt this and say it has probably built booster rockets to increase the SCUD's range to take in Tehran.

While Iraq is believed to receive its weapons direct from Moscow, Iran's SCUDs filter through via a circuitous route which diplomats say usually involves Syria or Libya, its two main allies in the Arab World.

## TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	23:57	News Headline
24:00	Close Down	
FRANCE ONE		
Programme Review		
Cartoons		
Dennis the Menace		
Children's programmes		
News Summary		
Local programme		
Soccer		
Local agricultural programme		
Programme review		
News in Arabic		
Arabic series		
Programme on Arabic		
T.V. Magazine (local)		
News Summary		
Close down		
FRANCE TWO		
Race Carrot		
L'Ecole des Fant		
News in French		
International Circus Festival		
News in Hebrew		
Varieties		
News in Arabic		
Farting of the F.O.		
Conduct at work		
News in English		
Secret Arm		
RADIO JORDAN		
10 KHz, AM & 90 MHz FM		
Carroll on 900 KHz, SW		
Tel: 2111-14		
Light Music		
Newsdesk		
Morning Show		
News Summary		
In Concert		
News Summary		
Pop Talk		
News Summary		
Pop Session continued		
News Bulletin		
Instrumentals		
Science Report		
Concert Hour		
News Summary		
Instrumentals		
Old Favourites		
Licenses' Choice		
News Summary		
Rhythm and Blues		
News Summary		
Dyle with a Star		
Evening Show		
News Summary		
Evening Show continued		
News Summary		
Evening Show continued		
News Summary		

## WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	MUSEUMS	SERVICE CLUBS
Exhibitions	Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7.30 p.m. p.m. Tel. 622344.
★ An art exhibition by Osama Zawadeh at the Goethe Institute (until March 7).	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625390.	Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m. Tel. 816534.
★ Art exhibition by Mahmoud Taha at Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts (runs through 14/3/1988).	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweideh, Tel. 625340.	Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle, Tel. 816534, 817534.
★ Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.	Terrence Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Lweideh, main in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. Tel. 622344.
★ The 55th paintings exhibition at the British Council (until March 9).	Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdi, Tel. 62344.	Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625340.
★ Exhibition of photos about Woodcuts and typesetting in Germany at Mu'ta University in Karak (until March 15).	Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.	Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.
★ "Videos about environment at the French Cultural Centre (until March 15).	St. Eustachius Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.	Armenian International Church (Interdenominational), meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyya, Tel. 67534.
★ Exhibition of photos about Woodcuts and typesetting in Germany at Mu'ta University in Karak (until March 15).	Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arab Service, Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295.	Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical. Arab Service, Saturday 6.30 p.m. Tel. 822605, Rev. Vol.
★ Videos about environment at the French Cultural Centre (until March 15).	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815-817, 821-264.	
VIDEOS	CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267.	American Centre. Tel. 644371.	
British Council. Tel. 644371.	Goethe Institute. Tel. 644371.	
Goethe Institute. Tel. 644371.	Soviet Cultural Centre. Tel. 644371.	
Spanish Cultural Centre. Tel. 644371.	Turkish Cultural Centre. Tel. 644371.	
Haya Arts Centre. Tel. 644371.	Husseini Youth City. Tel. 644371.	
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 644371.	Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 644371.	
Amman Municipal Library. Tel. 644371.	Univ. of Jordan Library. Tel. 644371.	

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

# QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 532005, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:15	Aqaba (RJ)
09:30	Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Jeddah (RJ)
09:55	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:45	Cairo (RJ)
17:00	London (RJ)
17:45	Aqaba (RJ)
17:50	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:00	Paris (RJ)
18:05	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
18:05	Frankfurt (RJ)
18:15	Bahrein, Rome (RJ)
18:30	Madrid, Rome (RJ)
18:55	Baghdad (RJ)

## OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:00	Berlin (TF)
11:00	Cairo (AZ)
11:20	Damascus (RJ)
11:45	Kuwait (LN)
12:45	Shanghai, Doha (GF)
13:00	Jeddah (SV)
13:40	Kuwait (KU)
15:30	Baghdad (IA)
15:50	Athens (OA)
16:25	Beirout (MF)
19:15	Frankfurt (TF)
21:00	Cairo (MS)
09:25	London, Cairo (BA)

## DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:00	Aqaba (RJ)
11:00	Victoria, New York (RJ)
11:05	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:15	Kuwait (RJ)
19:40	Dhahran (RJ)
19:45	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
19:50	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:55	Baghdad (RJ)
20:00	Jeddah (SV)
20:00	Jeddah, San'a (RJ)
20:15	Cairo (RJ)

21:05	Damascus (RJ)
21:30	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00	Bangkok (RJ)

## OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
10:00	Berlin (DF)
10:20	Cairo (MS)
12:10	Rome (AZ)
13:00	Tripoli (LN)
13:45	Shanghai (GF)
14:40	Jeddah (SV)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
16:30	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	Athens (OA)
20:00	San'a (LI)
21:50	Cairo (MS)

## PRAYER TIMES

04:36	Fajr
06:54	(Sunrise)
11:47	Dhuhr
15:05	Asr
18:38	Maghrib
	Isha

## MONEY EXCHANGE

### Saturday rates

Local scrip/rates in file

Belgian franc	95.5	96.9
Dutch guilder	178	190.1
French franc	549	59.9
Italian lire	27	16.1
Japanese yen (inv 100)	261.9	266.1
Swedish crown	50.2	57.1
Swiss franc	59.7	64.2
U.K. sterling pound	293	60.7
U.S. dollar	337.4	342.2
W. German mark	199.6	202.8

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with the appearance of medium and high clouds. Light and variable winds will become southeasterly moderate, and an increase in temperature is expected. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Amman	Min./max. temp.
Aqaba	7 / 16
Deirats	12 / 24
Jordan Valley	5 / 15
	10 / 24



## Home news

**CONDOLENCES:** His Majesty King Hussein Saturday deplored the death of the wife of the late Ahmad Toukan.

**SENATE MEETS:** Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi has called the house to session Sunday.

**CYPRIOT ENVOY:** Minister of Transport and Communications Khalid Al Haj Hassan and Cypriot Ambassador to Jordan Nicolas Makris Saturday discussed ways of promoting existing bilateral cooperation in the fields of telecommunications, postal services and transport.

**NEW DOCTORS:** Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh has granted 50 physicians licence to practice medicine in the public and private sectors in the Kingdom.

**HAMMOURI:** Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri Saturday met with Iraq's Ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jassem Hussein. They discussed means of promoting bilateral cooperation in cultural fields.

**PEOPLE'S ARMY:** A ceremony was held here for the graduation of a new batch of People's Army recruits. District Governor Abdullah Khasawneh made a speech at the ceremony underlining the fact that the recruits will serve as a back up force for the Jordanian Armed Forces. Several heads of local departments attended the graduation ceremony.

**ELECTRICITY:** The Irbid District Electricity Company said Saturday that it carried out electrification projects in Jiba, Deir Al Kahf and Al Harara in the Mafraq governorate. The total cost of the project, which entailed setting up four transformer stations and laying high voltage cables, was JD 220,000. A company spokesman said that power will be supplied to these villages during the current month.

**MUNICIPALITIES:** The heads of municipal councils in Ajloun and Jerash districts will gather at Yarmouk University on March 13 for a five-day meeting organised by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment. The participants will be oriented on methods and skills by which they can promote the work of their municipalities, and will learn more about municipalities laws, financial and administrative affairs pertaining to municipalities and municipal services. At least 25 heads of municipal councils will take part in the meeting.

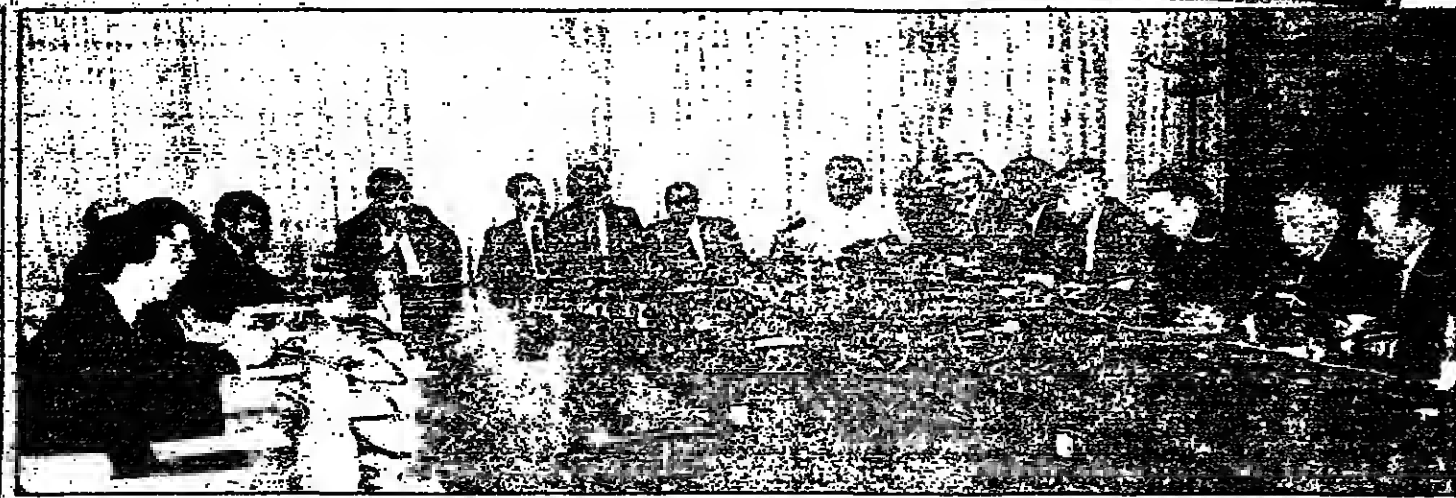
**LABOUR MEETING:** Jordan is to take part in the meetings of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) member states. The conference is to discuss topics related to Arab labour integration, enforcement of the ALO recommendations and a memo concerning the forthcoming international labour conference which will be held in Geneva in June.

**IPA COURSE:** The Institute of Public Administration's branch in Irbid Saturday opened a two-week training course for personnel employees at government departments. The 30 participants will be oriented on matters related to the development of human resources, job description, civil service laws and health insurance.

**DENTISTRY:** Jordan University of Science and Technology will take part in a dentists conference Monday in Damascus by the Syrian Dentists Association. Dr. Nabil Salem from the university's Faculty of Dentistry will represent the university at the week-long conference.

**SECURITY ESCORTS:** A training course for security escorts was opened at the Police Academy Saturday. The course was opened by Public Security Department Assistant Director for Planning and Operations, Major General Mahmoud Al Khashman, who outlined the department's programmes in recruiting and training escorts to accompany important personalities visiting the country.

**PHOTO EXHIBITION:** Mu'ta University President Ali Mahabza Saturday opened a German photographic exhibition held at Mu'ta University in cooperation with the Goethe Institute in Amman.



Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayezi receives the Spanish parliamentary delegation in Amman Saturday (Petra photo)

## Fayezi, Spanish MPs discuss bilateral ties

AMMAN (Petra) — A Spanish parliamentary delegation Saturday held talks with the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayezi and House deputies on parliamentary affairs and issues of common interest to Jordan and Spain.

Fayezi voiced Jordan's appreciation of Spain's support for Arab causes and its attitude towards the current Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. The Jordanian speaker expressed hope that Spain will continue to support the cause of just peace in the Middle East, and play a role toward convening an international conference to achieve genuine peace.

Fayezi lauded Jordanian-Spanish parliamentary relations and said the two countries ought to exchange visits by parliamentarians to review world issues and strengthen bilateral ties. He also underlined the importance of coordinating the views of Jordanian and Spanish parliamentarians at the Inter-Parliamentary Union meetings.

For his part the leader of the Spanish delegation Felix Pons reiterated the Spanish parliament's support for the Palestinian uprising and backed Fayezi's call for exchange of visits by parliamentarians.

Pons also supported the idea of concentrating the views of Jordanian and Spanish parliamentarians on world issues at Inter-Parliamentary Union meetings, and said that Jordan and Spain maintain unique relations and cooperation in all fields.

After the speeches the two sides held a round of talks to discuss the Middle East question issues of common interest.

Fayezi told Pons and the Spanish delegation that Jordan was keen on convening an international Middle East conference to achieve peace and to secure the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

House Member Rizek Al Bataineh spoke at the meeting referring to His Majesty King Hussein's recent meetings with European leaders to expound the Arab Nation's views on the Middle East question.

Bataineh urged the Spanish parliament and the Spanish public opinion to exercise pressure on Israel to make it accept the peace.

In reply, Pons said the Spanish parliament and government are in full agreement on supporting the idea of an international peace conference because they believe that the problems of the region

cannot be solved by force of arms.

### Visit to university

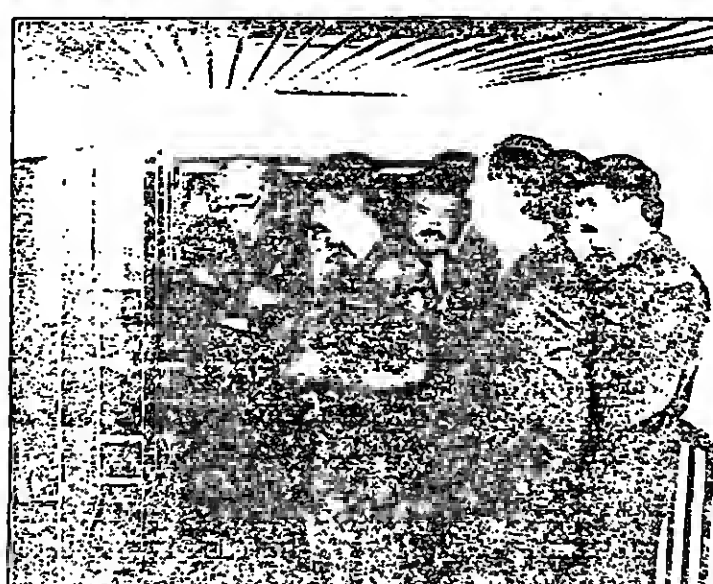
The Spanish parliamentary delegation visited the University of Jordan and met with its President Abdul Salam Al Majali. The discussions at the university centred on bilateral cooperation in educational fields.

Majali outlined the university's development programmes and la-

ter accompanied the six-member delegation on a tour of the campus and the various departments.

Later Saturday, Pons and his delegation called at the Martyrs' Monument and inspected the displayed items which relate the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces and their different weapons.

Pons was accompanied on the visits by Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Ramon Armengod.



The Spanish parliamentary delegation visits the Martyrs' Monument in Amman Saturday (Petra photo)

## Mazar district carries out projects worth JD 986,000

KARAK (Petra) — The Ministry of Education last year carried out educational projects in Mazar district near Karak at the cost of JD 986,000, district Governor Sali Nassar said here Saturday.

He said the projects entailed building schools for boys and girls and setting up annexes for others. The Ministry of Education has now appropriated plots of land for setting up schools to replace those in rented buildings, Nassar noted.

He said the district has 48 schools offering education to 10,160 students with 583 teachers at all the primary, preparatory and secondary levels.

Nassar pointed out that the Ministry of Public Works has opened 31 kilometre stretch of road, at the cost of JD 279,000, to link a number of villages in the district, and more roads will be opened as part of the current five-year plan.

He said the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) plans to spend a total of JD 1.5 million on improving telephone and postal services in the Mazar district also included in the five year

plan. Nearly 97 per cent of the district's inhabitants have been supplied with electricity.

The district governor said that the Health Ministry last year opened a health centre at Mazar at the cost of JD 250,000 and this is now serving the different villages around Mazar.

Plans are being made for setting up a civil defence centre at the cost of JD 70,000 and work is underway for setting up two charitable societies at Kharsheh and Al Ain villages near Mazar.

Nassar noted that a total of

70,000 dunums of land in the district have been planted with cereals in the current season and 5,000 fruit trees have been planted in the rain fed regions.

"Water supply is available to 95 per cent of the inhabitants and the Water Authority plans to lay networks to supply the rest with water this summer," Nassar said.

He said the total population of Mazar district now stands at 32,000, living on 377,255 square kilometres of land, which groups five municipalities and nine village councils.



Department of Statistics opens training course for Housing Bank employees (Petra photo)

## Department of Statistics opens training course

AMMAN (Petra) — The Department of Statistics has opened a training course for 17 employees from the Housing Bank on subjects related to statistics and their importance in social and economic planning.

The two-week course is also designed to orient the participants on modern means of conducting statistics, and analysing data related to this subject.

Housing Bank Director Gener-

al Zuhair Khouri spoke at the opening session, underlining the importance of training courses in statistics for bankers and for researchers, in matters related to bank operations.

## Department issues 4,439 passports in 1987

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Registration and Passport Department last year issued 4,439 passports and collected fees totalling JD 88,780, according to department Director Issa Omari.

He said these included 153 permanent passports issued for visitors to the occupied Arab territories.

Omari appealed to citizens, especially students, to try to renew or acquire new passports before summer, when the depart-

ment will be inundated with applications from expatriates, on holiday in Jordan, wishing to renew their passports.

Omari said that passports can be obtained on the same day if all required documents are available.

## Maan to build more schools

MAAN (Petra) — Studies and plans for school buildings, which will be set up in 1988, are being prepared at the Maan Governor's house.

Education Department Director Hussein Al Ghanamin said that plans are being made for building

four schools and for annexes to existing schools in Maan and four neighbouring villages.

He said at least JD 14,000 were allocated for immediate maintenance to be carried out at a number of local schools.

# FAO adopts Princess Rahmeh Development Centre as regional base

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has decided to adopt the Princess Rahmeh Community Development Centre at Allan near Salt as a Near East regional centre for training personnel in agrarian reform and rural development, Ministry of Social Development's Secretary General Mohammad Sqour announced Saturday.

rural development and improving the living conditions of the inhabitants of villages and rural areas in the Near East, Sqour said.

Near East countries will also benefit from expertise provided by FAO officials on social development, Sqour noted.

For achieving that aim, he said, the centre will embark on research work and studies in the field, dealing with agrarian reform and rural development. The centre will organise seminars and conferences where researchers can present ideas and contribute towards social development.

In addition, the centre will hold training courses for personnel from countries involved in the centre's activities, and will distribute information related to rural development, Sqour added.

He said the centre will be governed by a board of directors whose members represent the countries of the Near East region. This board is expected to serve for two years and will define each country's financial contribution to the centre's operations.

Sqour said that the Rome-based FAO has embarked on practical steps for the implementation of this decision, following an agreement which was signed by five representatives of regional countries.

In 1979 FAO decided to establish such a centre in the Near East, and the idea was discussed at FAO regional conferences held in Rome and later in Cyprus, according to Sqour.

He said Jordan, as well as Iraq, Egypt, Pakistan and Syria, have already signed an agreement for establishing the centre at Allan, and more nations are expected to follow suit in view of Jordan's central geographic location with-

in the region.

The Ministry of Social Development has placed the Allan centre at the disposal of FAO. Its experts are ready to propagate expertise, and help the Near East countries to promote rural development, Sqour noted.

He said in the coming few days the ministry and FAO will embark on arrangements for enabling the centre to begin offering its services and achieve its objectives.

"The ministry will offer FAO all possible help and facilities to help fulfil the centre's far reaching aims," Sqour added.

The centre aims at involving local people in the process of

## Hmoud: Jordan is self-sufficient in white meat, has egg surplus

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is now self sufficient in white meat and has surpluses in table eggs, which prompted the government to undertake new measures to organise production and stabilise prices, Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud said here Saturday.

Addressing the opening session of a training seminar on the use of computers in planning, preparing and analysing agricultural projects in the Kingdom, Hmoud said the ministry was forced to impose the agricultural patterns system in the country, and to amend the agricultural law in view of strong competition for its products in foreign markets, and because some of these markets have now reached self sufficiency.

The ministry has also embarked on a policy of leasing unused lands in the eastern regions of the country, to individuals and companies wishing to exploit the areas for producing cereals, and fodder, and for increasing livestock to produce lean meat in order to contribute towards ensuring food security in the country, Hmoud said.

The minister noted that, over the past few years, Jordan has been able to realise high develop-

ment growth, with most of the attention being given to the production of strategic crops, such as wheat, and essential types of crops, like potato, and the ministry has been subsidising prices and offering help to the local farmers.

The Ministry of Agriculture maintains a policy of training personnel in various agricultural fields and projects because it believes this will help promote agricultural production as a whole, Hmoud noted.

"To promote production, the ministry has created a special unit to supervise the agricultural pattern system, and has set up a national centre for research and technology in agriculture," Hmoud said.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) is sponsoring the 12-day seminar, in which experts from Jordan and FAO will be delivering lectures and discussing subjects related to the use of computers in agriculture.

FAO representative Ali Atiqa stressed the importance of scientific planning for a successful agricultural policy in any country.

"Through the application of science and technology, a country

can exploit its natural and human resources in an ideal manner, and promote economic and social development," Atiqa said.

Another speaker at the opening session was Dr. Mahnuud Dweiri, dean of the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture, who underlined the role played by his faculty in helping the development of Jordan's agricultural sector.

The Faculty of Agriculture has already turned out 1,100 students who contributed to developing the agricultural sector in Jordan, and who continue to do research work designed to promote production," Dweiri noted.

The adoption of computers, in analysing projects and planning agricultural schemes in Jordan, is bound to further promote this scientific work, Dweiri added.

Representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Supply, Occupied Territories Affairs, Planning, Water and Irrigation, as well as the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Jordan Cooperative Organisation, the Cities and Villages Development Bank and the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture are taking part in the seminar.

## Campaign launched to beautify Salt

SALT (Petra) — A week-long campaign, to beautify Salt by planting fruit and forest trees along streets and around schools, began here Saturday.

The campaign is being organised by the Salt Cultural Centre in cooperation with the Salt Municipality, and the departments of education and public works in the Balqa Governorate.

## Police nab 2 robbers

AMMAN (J.T.) — Police in Amman have apprehended two robbers while in the act of trying to peddle electrical equipment, according to Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The paper said that the two thieves identified only as Kh. H. and NS. M. had admitted to committing several thefts in Amman, and stealing electric appliances, clothes, jewellery and cash mostly from homes which they broke into at night.

## RSS holds training course

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Saturday opened a 12-day training course on the employment of computers and other electronic calculators. Personnel from the public and private sectors are taking part in the training course.

## Loose dogs — a menace in Abdoun

Editor's Note: Due to a technical problem the following article was cut in yesterday's issue.

Herebelow is the full text of the article.

By Sa'd G. Hattar

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

to know was its owner's house," Ms. Nassar told the Jordan Times.

"To my surprise, a domestic labourer, working with the family owning the dog, held the carcass in his two hands and put it in front of me without saying a word," she said. The owners of the dog did not even take responsibility for their dog's action.

"This is not all," Ms. Nassar added. Another resident in the same neighbourhood "saw his dog mauled in front of his eyes, then dragged away by the attacker to its home ground. It took the owners three hours to pull the remains of the killed pet from the dog's zone."

"Many people seem to want the meanest, strongest killer dog to guard their property" ignoring the potential dangers posed to their neighbours, passers-by and even their own children, she said. Ms. Nassar suggests drafting immediate legislation to hold owners of vicious dogs and dangerous house pets fully liable for any such incidents involving their pets.

Veterinarian Nathani Abdullah, who performed a post-mortem on the killed dog, billed the killer dog as a "real trained" pet for the way it pierced its fangs into its victim.

Two of the victim's ribs directly protecting the heart immediately broke on impact, causing an internal haemorrhage, Abdullah told the Jordan Times.

"Had the dog been efficiently trained he would not have attacked the house pet in the first place," he added.

The vet did not rule out the

possibility of the killer dog having rabies, and suggested it should be put immediately in quarantine.

Ms. Nassar's was the third such case witnessed by the vet, who said that most cases reported to him involve loose dogs biting smaller house pets.

Contacted by the Jordan Times, one lawyer said assailant animals in such cases should be kept in quarantine until they are fully tested for rabies. In other cases, the pet must be killed if it proved to be diseased or not properly tamed, the lawyer noted.

He said such cases, reported to the police, are of relatively minor importance compared to incidents in which wild pets attack human beings.

Under these circumstances, the person who is attacked should receive full medical care, financially covered by the pet's owner. "The attacked person, however, should not seek revenge in person, but should rather have the police solve the problem," he pointed out.

A Public Security Department official told the Jordan Times that the department runs its own forensic veterinary centre to check on wild dogs, and operates a special quarantine for diseased pets.

Furthermore, according to the same source, the Public Security Department frequently launches campaigns to rid the city of stray dogs, that would pose threats to the security and comfort of citizens. Such efforts, however, do not include killing or seizing dogs that could be proven by documents to be house pets.



# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.  
Established 1975

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## Daffy-land

IT's noteworthy that while the Israeli government tries to promote a "peace process" without accepting the principle of exchanging territory for peace, it also adopts a media policy that tries to make believe that all is quiet in the occupied territories. The diplomatic strategy assumes the occupied territories are Israel's eternal spoils of war, and the media strategy assumes that the uprising in the Palestinian lands is not really happening. And the big Easter bunny jumped out of Mr. Shamir's hat and, whoopee, landed right in Mr. Peres' lap, where it slept happily ever after.

In fairy tales and make-believe worlds, one is supposed to get up with a certain amount of disbelief; but in the real world of human beings and guns and children being shot by soldiers, it is not always helpful to live according to the dictates of the cartoon industry. For isn't this what the Israeli leaders are doing, when they forbid the news media from covering the uprising in the occupied territories? We know, we know, this is the age of media, when actors become presidents, and how you look is often more important than what you say. But it does not hold that if it's not on TV, it didn't happen. Whether the world does or does not watch the Palestinian uprising and the brutality of Israel, the Israelis will still feel the effects of what is happening. The Palestinian uprising, after all, is the latest historical stage of a process of a Palestinian and Arab struggle for national rights which started at the turn of the century — many years before television was invented.

But Israel's actions suggest that the search for peace will be difficult, in an atmosphere in which Israeli leaders think they can have peace without relinquishing land, or that they can wish away the Palestinian uprising by preventing it from appearing on television. By golly, is this what Israelis mean when they say that they seek to live up to a higher standard of morality, because of their suffering over the centuries? Something is amiss in the land of Zion, and it will take more than Daffy Duck to straighten it out. Or then, perhaps Daffy Duck would understand the Israeli leaders' mentality just fine.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Rai: Shamir threatens Shultz

ISRAEL has announced that if the U.S. secretary of state does not change his proposals for a Middle East settlement Shamir would carry a negative reply to these proposals in his coming visit to Washington. This statement gives us a clear idea about Israel's attitude with regard to the new American initiative, and places George Shultz face to face with two options: Either to change his proposals to make them more palatable to Israel or risk a rejection. It is better for the U.S. administration to understand fully the implications of the Israeli threat and opt for an attitude that is closer to the international community's stand with regard to a solution. The U.S. administration ought to work for holding an international conference that can achieve lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and not a partial settlement which is rejected by the Arab side. In this way, the U.S. can put an end to Israel's intransigence and help bring about genuine peace. Negotiations are not an end by themselves but a means for achieving a settlement based on U.N. Security Council resolutions that call for an end to occupation and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland. Since the situation in our region has become dangerous there is no time to be wasted over partial solutions, and efforts should be exerted now for a lasting and comprehensive solution.

### Al Bustour: King's efforts yield success

KING Hussein's European tour was made amidst important developments and diplomatic contacts with various world nations over the Middle East question. His talks with European leaders revolved around initiatives and efforts being made for ending the conflict in our region and giving momentum for the peace process. The King discussed the situation and the uprising in the occupied Arab lands with the Pope, the leaders of Italy, France, Austria, and West Germany, and his speech to the European Community's foreign ministers revolved on this central issue. In response to these efforts there has been encouraging reply from the Western world and a favourable stand with regard to the idea of an international conference designed to achieve a lasting peace. The King's tour therefore brought about real backing and support for the Arab cause. Jordan has always attached importance to these contacts with foreign countries, and the King has been conveying the Arab Nation's views through these contacts to the outside world. The Jordanian diplomatic effort, spearheaded by the King at all fronts, has proved that it is really possible to rally worldwide support for Arab causes and that any concerted and unified Arab effort can and should yield fruit and achieve success.

### Sana Al Shaab: King secures support for Arab cause

KING Hussein conveyed to European leaders during his tour the concerned views and the unified stands of the Arab countries as adopted at the Amman Arab summit meeting last November. The King succeeded in obtaining support for the Arab Nation's cause from these leaders, and was able to enlist more backing from other world nations as well. In his talks with these leaders, the King showed without doubt that the Arabs were looking forward to peace based on justice and that they were seeking the convening of an international conference to enable the U.N. Security Council implement its Resolutions 242 and 338 on the Arab-Israeli problem. In contrast with this clear stand on the Arab side, Israel continues to ignore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and continues to exercise repressive measures against the Palestinian people. In his latest meetings with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, King Hussein was keen on projecting the Arab stand and stressing that the Arabs were adhering firmly to their rights and, to the idea of an international conference.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Balance of payments reflects 'healthy deficit'

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

THE term "healthy deficit" may appear contradictory, but it is the best description of the likely outcome of the Jordanian balance of payments for 1987.

We used to boast about the surpluses reflected in past years' balance of payments despite the fact that those surpluses resulted from the excess of external borrowing over the repayments of previous loans.

Such surplus is obviously unhealthy. It is similar to counting money in your pocket at the end of the month to find that you have JD 100 more than at the beginning of the month simply because you borrowed JD 150 from your friends. In that situation you are achieving an accounting surplus in your personal balance of payments which is in reality a deficit in your actual current transactions and flow of income and expenditure.

Let us take real examples: The Jordanian balance of payments in 1986 reflected a surplus of JD 18.7 million while our net borrowing during that year was around JD 51 million. Still worse, in 1985 the Jordanian balance of payments showed another surplus of JD 18.5

million, but our net borrowing during that very year was in the order of JD 137.6 million.

In other words we were achieving unhealthy surpluses resulting from the capital account, mainly external loans, and not from the export and import of goods and services, or what we call the current account which represents our economic transaction with the outside world.

So far the Central Bank did not publish even preliminary figures covering the balance of payments performance for any part of 1987.

However, we have no doubt that the balance sheet when finalised and published, will reflect a sizable deficit, which we claim healthy, because the capital account will be in deficit, perhaps for the first time. That is because we repaid old loans in excess of what we have withdrawn from fresh ones. It is worth noting that all new external loans are developmental and not commercial.

The deficit in 1987 is in fact "better" than the surplus of the previous two years when judged financially and economically. We have frowned on the previous surpluses but, for the same reasons

we smile at the present one.

Perhaps the Central Bank is hesitant to come up with the deficit figure due to psychological considerations and because the public opinion is conditioned to welcome surpluses.

We strongly encourage the Central Bank to reveal the preliminary figures for 1987 without further delay. In a way we should be proud of our deficit if it is resulting from repayments of old loans in excess of utilisation of current loans. This will allow the external indebtedness of Jordan to drop for the first time.

As an educated guess we put the bottom line in the balance of payments for 1987 in the range of JD 51 to 69 million, which is tolerable provided the external indebtedness of Jordan was declining.

The economic policy and decision-makers have of course to look into more vigorous balance of payment policies, as foreign exchange is and will continue to be the bottle neck and the sensitive point in the proper management of the national economy as long as this management is oriented towards financial stability and security.

# Israel wants land and peace

By Pascal B. Karmy

SINCE 1967, Israel has been occupying the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Syrian Golan Heights and has stubbornly refused to withdraw from those territories notwithstanding the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967 and Resolution 338 of 1973. It has also declined to accept the concept of exchanging territory for peace within the framework of the above-mentioned resolutions. Israel wants peace on its own terms; it wants to keep the occupied territories permanently under its control. It wants peace with the Arab states solely for its own advantages amongst which is trading with them and exporting its goods to their countries. In simple words, Israel demands unconditional surrender from the Arabs. Menachem Begin once said "it was enough that we grant peace to Jordan." In a nutshell, Israel wants to impose upon the Arabs its "Pax Hebraica."

There are three main factors, among others, which make Israel adopt this intransigent stand. The first is the United States' unconditional political and financial support. The second is the divisiveness of the Arabs. A third factor which emboldens Israel not to relinquish any of the occupied territories may be attributed to the fact that Israel may have already possessed nuclear power; that is to say Israel believes that the strategic balance of power is in its favour.

Let us deal with each of the above three factors separately:

### The American support

Israel relies heavily on American support. The U.S. has helped Israel with money and modern arms of every type whether in peace time or when Israel waged war. The U.S. has committed itself to defend Israel, rightly or wrongly, and has concluded with it a strategic cooperation agreement. However, Israel commits a great mistake if it thinks it can remain preponderant in the Middle East with the American support. This unconditional support cannot be guaranteed indefinitely. There must come a time when the U.S. power declines and becomes financially unable to pour money into the coffers of Israel. Such a fate could result from a depression, like the one that hit America in 1929; or there may come a time when public opinion in the U.S. becomes so nauseated with Israel's interminable demands that successive American governments and Congresses would be inhibited from acceding to Israel's demands especially if the influence of the Jewish lobby in the Congress wanes. Will the American public opinion remain in favour of Israel forever notwithstanding the elapse of years and the rise of new generations in the U.S. who would care less for Israel? It is hoped that in the long term the U.S. will realise that its strategic interest with the Arabs is far more important than that with Israel.

### The divisiveness of the Arabs

The second factor on which Israel relies is the disunity and disagreement among the Arabs. Ben Gurion, one of the founders of Israel, once said that the salvation of Israel relies heavily on the disunity of the Arab states and that Israel should incite disputes between them and encourage sectarianism and confessionalism. But one may ask, can Israel be sure that the state of affairs in the Arab World endures forever especially after the Arab summit in Amman in 1987?

Although the Arab states may not in the foreseeable future attain a stage to form a union or a federation (which the Arab League is not), I believe nevertheless, that a day will come when the Arab states will unite their armed forces and coordinate their strategy under an effective joint leadership not just on paper, as is the case presently with the Collective Security Pact of 1950, in order to face the ambitious and expansionist policy of Israel. The Arabs would reach a stage when it becomes a matter of life or death for them to stem Israel or even to crush it if need be. We have two examples in the history of the Muslim-Arab Middle East: The first when Salah Eddin Al Ayyoubi (known in the West as Saladin) united the Muslim-Arabs under his leadership and defeated the Crusaders in 1187.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARIES

### 'Make it hell for the Iranian regime'

In a commentary on the latest developments in the Gulf war, Al Rai's political writer Tareq Masarweh advocated an asymmetrical response to Iran's rocket attacks on Iraqi cities.

"Many of us could not understand the meaning of Iraq's patience by adopting a steady defensive posture throughout the war."

"We know that Iraq possesses tremendous rocket power and massive reserves, in addition to fighter bombers that could reduce entire cities to ruins... but despite the fact that its cities had been attacked by Iranian missiles before, Iraq has preferred not to use them until now."

"Iraq ran out of patience two days ago and the Iranians have begun to pay the price of their war games."

Masarweh emphasised that ending this war must be done by paralysing the Iranian regime from the inside, and exposing it to its masses. "This is the only solution left after the failure of each and every regional or international mediation effort."

Al Rai's political commentator said that in the past, the Iranian stopped the flow of Iraqi oil from its ports that ran parallel to the Iranian coast. And when the Iraqis interrupted the Iranian oil flow by bombing Kharg Island, Tehran resorted to hindering navigation in all of the Arab Gulf, as blackmail aimed at limit-

ing the battle of Hittin (near Tiberias in Palestine) in 1187 A.D. and victoriously entered Jerusalem. Another example was when the Muslim-Arabs under the leadership of the Mamluk sultans (mainly seated in Egypt) dealt the final blow to the Crusaders; and afterwards in 1260 when the Mamluk Sultan Baybars inflicted at Ain Jalut (near Nazareth) a crushing defeat on the invading Mongolian Tartars. Let us not however go far in history. In the October war of 1973 when Egypt and Syria joined hands and coordinated their forces and strategy, they were able to inflict a heavy initial defeat on Israel. Had it not been for the large sophisticated arms and equipment which the U.S. sent immediately to the Israeli forces by an air corridor leading to the battle fields, Israel would have suffered a crushing defeat. Did not Dayan, the then minister of defence, wire to Golda Meir, the then prime minister, saying: "The third temple is destroyed." Cato the Roman senator and great orator (234-149 B.C.) ended one of his orations in the Roman Senate by the words "Carthage must be destroyed," and Carthage was finally destroyed by the Romans in 146 B.C. because it was a thorn in the back of the Romans. Israel should learn the lessons of history of the foreign powers which invaded in the past this part of the world and then disappeared. Israel should draw the necessary conclusions.

### The nuclear threat

Israel's possession of nuclear weapons is another factor which emboldens it to hold on to the occupied territories and to challenge the Arab states. Israel does not confirm or deny as to whether it has manufactured an atomic bomb or that it has missiles with nuclear heads. Israel's political leaders from Dayan onwards maintained that Israel will not be the first to introduce atomic weapons into the region. By implication this declaration means that Israel can at least produce the atomic bomb if it wants to, if it has not already done so. However, circumstantial evidence or at least logical presumptions lead one to the conclusion that Israel has already made the atomic bomb.

Years back in 1976, Time magazine published an investigative report which concluded that Israel had manufactured 13 atomic bombs. The Israeli nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu who worked for years in the Dimona nuclear plant in the Negev desert, had revealed to the London Sunday Times newspaper that Israel is producing devastating nuclear weapons. Presently Vanunu is being tried by an Israeli court for treason. Moreover, the Geneva-based international Defence Review published reports that Israel has manufactured the Jericho 2, a missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads with a range that could reach all Arab capitals and the southern parts of the Soviet Union. Furthermore, Israel has not signed and is still refusing to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and it has rejected to comply with the resolutions issued every year by the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency calling upon Israel to allow the inspection of its nuclear facilities.

But one may ask: Will Israel forever enjoy the monopoly of nuclear power in the Middle East region? Scientists and experts believe that the Arabs will before long be able to possess or develop nuclear technology. The Arabs are trying very hard to achieve strategic military balance with Israel. Syria seems to have received a dozen of the sophisticated SS25 ground to ground missiles from the Soviet Union, a more advanced version of the SS21. Some news reports say that those missiles can be provided with chemical warheads to counter any bombardment of Damascus by Israel's heavy artillery or by its Jericho missiles. The Middle East Military Balance report released by the Tel Aviv University Jaffa Centre for Strategic Studies states, *inter alia*, that the qualitative gap between the Arab armies and the Israeli army is narrowing. It adds: "The Arab chemical warfare threat against Israel is a fact and would grow in the future. It constitutes one form of Arab reply and counter-deterrent to Israel's nuclear advantage and to other advanced weapons systems Israel may possess."

Assuming however that Israel launches an atomic bomb on a neighbouring Arab country at war with it, experts say that the bomb will have a devastating radio-active effect on Israel itself due to its exiguity and its proximity to all neighbouring states. Will Israel repeat the fate of Samson the Jew who fought the Philistines in the south of Palestine in the 12th century B.C.? According to the legend, Samson held the pillars on which the house rested, one pillar with this right hand and the other with his left and said: "Let me die with the Philistines..." and the house fell upon all the princes and the rest of the multitude" (Judges, 16:29-30).

### The lesson from Lebanon

If however Israel wages a conventional war and tries to invade a front line Arab state, the Arabs can measure up to the challenge by modern conventional weapons and by popular resistance similar to the one put on by the Palestinians and the Lebanese when they faced the invading Israeli army in 1982. Israel's "Lebanon war" as well as the October war of 1973 proved beyond doubt that Israel is no longer invincible as it was alleged in the aftermath of the 1967 war; Israel army can be resisted and even made to suffer a stinging defeat. Israel's invasion of Lebanon, despite its blitzkrieg character, failed to achieve any of its declared objectives. The situation in South Lebanon became even worse for Israel than it was before the war. One of Israel's aims was not only to dislodge the PLO out of Lebanon but to destroy it so that the Palestinian people and especially those of the occupied territories will no longer rely on the PLO, or on any other Arab state. Israel could thus feel free thereafter to control the inhabitants of the occupied territories. Israel has however missed its target in this respect. The main cadres of the PLO were not dislodged although they were spread in many Arab countries and although a split occurred in the ranks of some of its fighters. Moreover many of the Palestinian combatants are again fighting alongside the Lebanese resistance a war of attrition against Israel notwithstanding the so-called security zone established in the south of Lebanon. In a nutshell, Israel is bogged down in the Lebanese quagmire.

Another aim of Israel's invasion of Lebanon was to drive out the Syrian army from Beirut and Bekaa Valley. Although many of the Syrian missiles stationed in the Bekaa Valley were destroyed, the Syrian army fulfilled Israel's plan to drive it out of Lebanon as a Jewish author observed: "The Syrian army met the test of holding the Israelis at bay when it counted most." Now the Syrian army is more entrenched in Lebanon than before the war which Israel called euphemistically the "war for peace in Galilee."

Israel's further aim for invading Lebanon was to conclude a peace treaty with Lebanon similar to the 1979 Camp David accords with Egypt. As is known the agreement of May 17, 1983 floundered to the ground when the president of Lebanon refused to ratify it. In short, as two Israeli authors wrote: "The Lebanon war undertaken at least to enhance the credibility of Israel's deterrent power, may well have contributed to destroying it."

## OPEN FORUM

### This is not America

"SIX DAYS plus twenty years — a dream is dying," which was shown on JTV last Tuesday evening, may be perceived in the USA as a moving drama of Israeli torment, because of Israel's 20-year occupation of the West Bank and Gaza — a heart-breaking saga of the wandering Jews for thousands of years, a dying dream of a "greater Israel," and a portrayal of world compassion for the Jewish cause.

Even as the documentary depicted some Israeli brutality, reporter Tom Brokaw's main concern was that these measures were harmful to the Israeli image and ultimately to Israeli security.

Give me a break, U.S. national television — oops, I mean Jordanian television; a people's revolution is going on in the occupied territories, and it has been going on for over three months. Is this the

right time and place to show such decadent scenes, as viewed by American NBC reporters and left-wing Israelis? Hardly.

Perhaps the Israelis are JTV's target audience. But instead of trying to analyse the psychology of the occupiers, why don't we stop for a minute and think of the thousands of angry, frustrated and fed-up Palestinians — Palestinians who, under the circumstances, would tune into an Arab TV station after a day of confrontation and violent "defence" forces, in search of appreciation, understanding and guidance. How about transmitting next time something more appealing and encouraging to the aspiration of the young stone-throwers, and therefore to local viewers?

Sana Atiyeh

OPEN FORUM is an occasional column open to all Jordan Times readers, staff members, contributors and friends. Opinion, analysis or reflection pieces are invited from all would-be polemicists who have thoughts they would like to share with our readers. No topics are barred. The only criteria for submissions are good taste and the writer's name and address. All pieces must carry the writer's name; and can vary in length from a few sentences to a few pages. Submissions should be typed (double-spaced), and may be edited for style.

## Continued from page one

### Shultz awaits response to plan

pressure to agree to the U.S. proposals while members of his own right-wing Likud party are urging him to stand firm. Shultz presented Shamir with written proposals Friday and Israeli political sources say the Americans expect Shamir to respond when he visits Washington March 14.

Peres, an enthusiastic backer of an international conference, told Israel Television Friday: "We have to give an answer. If we're not capable of giving an answer, we'll have to go to the people."

An earlier attempt by Peres to force a decision on the issue failed when the 10-man inner cabinet split equally and he failed to win the parliamentary majority necessary to order a general election.

Political sources say Shamir would prefer to stonewall both the Labour Party and the Americans until after the November elections but cannot appear to reject peace moves outright without alienating the important middle ground in the Israeli electorate.

Hardliners in Shamir's Likud bloc and other right-wing parties — the backbone of his support — are warning the prime minister not to agree to any proposal that could involve giving up the occupied territories.

**PLO: U.S. spurned offer**  
In Kuwait, a PLO official said the organisation nominated a delegation to meet with Shultz, but the offer was ignored, the daily Al Qabas reported Saturday.

Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the political department of the PLO, said the delegation could have

met with Shultz in any Arab or neutral capital.

However, "so far we have not heard any American reply," the newspaper quoted Kaddoumi as saying in an interview conducted in Paris, where he was meeting with officials at the French Foreign Ministry.

He said the Palestinian delegation would have included leading personalities from inside and outside the Israeli-occupied territories.

Palestinian notables from the West Bank and Gaza declined an invitation to meet with Shultz during his Middle East swing over the past week. They had not been selected by the PLO.

In the interview, Kaddoumi cast doubt on the ability of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration to achieve peace in the region.

"The Reagan administration, as it draws to the end of its term, is very weak and incapable of achieving any step toward peace," he said.

He said that if the administration failed to make progress toward that end in seven years, it could not be expected to succeed in its last year of tenure.

Kaddoumi accused Shultz of trying to "cast doubt" on Soviet support for the PLO by saying that the Soviets had endorsed the peace proposals, which were circulated during his trip.

PLO officials, aside from decrying the U.S. refusal to give their organisation a role in the Middle East peacemaking, have been denouncing the proposals as unacceptable form of "limited self-rule" for the Palestinians.

### Iraqis raid Iranian cities

which erupted a week ago with an Iraqi air raid on Tehran, to 130 dead and more than 260 injured.

Iran's IRNA news agency said Revolutionary Guards launched a missile at a "military centre" in the Iraqi capital Saturday but Baghdad said it hit houses and civilian property, killing or wounding several people.

Iraq has issued no detailed casualty statistics and has also offered no comment on an Iranian report that Revolutionary Guards destroyed a mobile rocket launching platform in central Iraq Friday.

Iraq said several people had

been killed or wounded by Iranian shelling of the southern city of Basra since Friday night.

Iran said shelling of industrial installations near Basra and other cities on the central waterfront inflicted substantial damage and casualties.

Resolution 598 calls for an immediate ceasefire and the 79-year war, troop withdrawals, no internationally-recognised boundaries, and an independent regime to establish "who started the war."

Iraq accepts the resolution but Iraq says Iraq must be named "the aggressor" before any ceasefire.

البحر الأحمر



## From Waheed Sadi in Geneva

THE UNITED NATIONS human rights activities and operations for the protection and promotion of human rights worldwide are alive, kicking and making strong headways everywhere in the world, Jan Martenson, the new United Nations under-secretary-general for human rights at the Human Rights Centre in Geneva, assured me. Martenson added that contrary to adverse publicity born out of ignorance, the United Nations human rights systems had made great strides to advance the cause of human rights.

Martenson is a Swedish national who had already earned high marks and international acclaim for his previous tenure as under-secretary-general of the United Nations for disarmament affairs at the U.N. New York headquarters. The new chief of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights has also made history by combining under wings for the first time ever two formidable tasks and functions: First as the director-general of the United Nations Office in Geneva, making him the highest U.N. official in the European headquarters in Geneva; and secondly as the under-secretary-general for human rights. Never before has the Geneva centre enjoyed leadership at such an elevated level.

His appointment to head the centre signals a boost to the U.N. human rights efforts and signifies an added urgency and importance to this kind of United Nations activity. It will be recalled that some Western and Latin American countries have always called for the appointment of a

high commissioner to head the human rights activities at the United Nations to put them on par with, for example, the refugee tasks which are now headed by a Swiss high commissioner. It appears that the appointment of an under-secretary-general at the helm of the United Nations human rights activities is a major leap forward in the direction of eventually appointing a United Nations high commissioner for human rights. To be sure the post of director-general of the U.N. office which Martenson also occupies is in itself a very taxing position with awesome responsibilities and duties; for the U.N. office in Geneva is the de facto capital of the United Nations system in Europe. There are more conferences and meetings both sessional and functional being held at the Geneva headquarters than at New York. And this year the United Nations Centre for Human Rights is particularly vibrant, dynamic and robust because it has already commenced celebrating the 40th anniversary of the United Nations declaration of human rights, the organic global human rights constitution. This is all occurring at a time when the so-called "rationalisation" process has taken a big toll on the number of U.N. officials at the centre for human rights. The strain of the heavy workload can be seen everywhere at the centre especially on the face of its new leader who was also caught mercilessly by the webs of this rationalisation imperatives and has been forced to divide his time and energy on two conflicting obligations.

But Martenson is not deter-



## Human rights: A utopia comes true

mined to succeed in his seemingly irreconcilable endeavours but also set on realising real progress in the cause of human rights on state, regional and international levels. It appears that he intends to achieve these formidable yet high aspirations by injecting dynamism and fortitude into the centre and through close cooperation with U.N. member states which desire a general review of the whole on human rights system

with a view to streamlining it and rationalising its ways and results.

Listening to Martenson speak out in defence of what the United Nations had already achieved in the human rights domain makes one believe more than ever that the United Nations is indeed advancing the cause of human rights. Martenson described such feat as due to the three pronged approaches to human rights which the U.N. system had

adopted and which he intends to fortify and bolster, i.e., legislation, implementation and information.

By legislation Martenson meant the some fifty international instruments which were adopted by the U.N. system the last of which was the convention against torture and other cruel inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment which was adopted in 1984 and entered into

force in June of 1987.

By implementation the new chief of the U.N. Human Rights Centre meant the various implementation measures incorporated in the covenants referred to earlier through the reporting system under which state parties to these instruments are obligated to submit periodic reports on their observance of respective treaty rights. Moreover, implementation can be realised, Martenson emphasised, by the mechanisms available under the mandates of the various human rights fora to study, examine and make decisions and recommendations when dealing with human rights issues or situations revealing systematic and gross human rights violations.

And by information the new under-secretary-general had in mind all sorts and kinds of mass media to disseminate accurate and full information on the U.N. human rights activities and operations worldwide with a view to create awareness all over the world and bring them closer to home everywhere and maximise their impact on as many countries as possible. In this vein Martenson mentioned the availability of the advisory services of his centre to help out governments which need the knowhow in order to meet their treaty obligations on human rights. In this context I suggested to the under-secretary-general that he should perhaps contemplate visits to various regions of the world in an attempt to highlight more the role of the centre in the promotion and protection of human rights. One could also envisage the assignment of some senior officials in the centre for human rights to act as regional representatives of the

centre as other United Nations humanitarian endeavours had already done.

At a time when UNICEF, UNHCR, UNDP, ILO and UNESCO are fortifying their regional offices the least one could expect from the head of the centre is to contemplate the appointment of human rights officials in various regions of the world to help the cause of the U.N. in the human rights field.

The fortyfourth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights is about to conclude its work. As it marks the first session of the commission that Martenson has attended in his new capacity I was interested to know about his impressions about the year's session and to gauge his views about its highlights.

The 43-member commission on human rights happens to be the main United Nations body dealing with human rights with extensive mandate to indulge in most human rights issues and violations. It is in fact the indirect offspring of the United Nations charter especially articles 13, 62, 64 and 68 and the direct creation of the Economic and Social Council. Since its creation in 1946 the commission had been most prolific in creating committees and working groups to assist it in carrying out its functions. What I wanted to know was what every student of human rights wanted to know, namely, whether governments' representatives on the commission and other United Nations fora are there to promote and protect human rights or to defend the human rights records of their respective countries and use the subject of human rights as a political whip against their

adversaries. In particular I wanted to gauge his assessment of the role that the so-called independent experts perform in the advancement of the cause of human rights in view of the fact that their elections to serve in their personal capacities are to a greater extent determined and controlled by governments by virtue of the monopoly power that states enjoy in nominating such "experts" for elections in the first place.

Martenson was at pains to explain that the whole U.N. system works on the reality of sovereign states. He dismissed the assumption that governments seek representations in various U.N. human rights fora to defend their human rights records. He also defended the credibility of the "independent expert" whom he described as faithful as can be to the cause of human rights.

Does this mean that all is well with the U.N. human rights endeavours? Not exactly, Martenson emphasised. There is a lot more to be done and accomplished he added, but cautioned that one should not commit the blunder of belittling the achievements of the U.N. in the realm of human rights. Suffice it to remind the cynical or doubtful that all countries big and small and from West and East take the subject of human rights more seriously now than ever. The evidence of this is reflected in their presence and show of concern whenever the issues of human rights present themselves. As far as human rights goes he added we live in a different world today that 40 years ago when the universal declaration was adopted. What then seemed utopian is a reality today.

## Amnesty International: Israel's abuse of Palestinian human rights on the rise

The following is an Amnesty International statement to the United Nations Commission on Human rights over the conditions of human rights in the Israeli-occupied territories.

HUMAN rights violations on an extensive scale have been a feature of the Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza in recent months. In response to Palestinian protest, and unrest, some of it violent, Israeli armed forces have repeatedly resorted to the use of lethal force and have inflicted severe — often indiscriminate — beatings on demonstrators and others in the occupied territories opposed to continued Israeli administration. Leaders of the Palestinian community have been administratively detained or deported to Lebanon, while hundreds of demonstrators and other protesters have been taken before military courts, summarily tried and sentenced to prison terms.

Since Dec. 9, 1987, when demonstrations began, at least 79 demonstrators and bystanders have been shot and killed in the West Bank and Gaza (Palestinian sources give a considerably higher figure for the numbers of deaths during this period). The dead include women and teenagers. An unknown number of Palestinians have been injured, many seriously, not only by gunfire but also after soldiers have deliberately carried out beatings. In mid-January Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli minister of defence, appeared to give the armed forces license to beat indiscriminately, when he publicly announced that the army would use "might, power and beatings," rather than live ammunition, to deter violent demonstrators. Both before and after that announcement demonstrators and bystanders, including women and children, were beaten by soldiers with clubs and rifle butts. Many have been hospitalised with broken limbs, fractures, head wounds and extensive bruising.

Some were reportedly beaten after soldiers had taken them into custody or after being injured by gunfire. Members of the armed forces were reportedly seen dragging wounded Palestinians out of Al Shifa Hospital in Gaza, beating them and taking them into custody.

In December Amnesty Inter-

"Interrogation methods described by former detainees have included hoodings, beatings all over the body including the head and genitals, falaqa (beatings on the soles of the feet), being hung by a rope from the ceiling and swung from wall to wall, prolonged exposure to cold weather or air conditioning, solitary confinement for between two and 15 days, prolonged sleep deprivation, and verbal abuse and threats."

national urged the Israeli defence minister to order a thorough investigation of the killings and beatings, many of which appeared to be the result of unnecessary and excessive force. Amnesty International said that there should be a full investigation in each case to determine whether security forces had complied with official regulations governing the use of firearms and whether those killed or injured had in fact been engaged in life-threatening activity. Amnesty International understands that some investigations have been carried out, but is concerned that not all cases have been investigated and that the use of live ammunition and beatings continues.

Members of the armed forces have carried out arbitrary arrests

without warrants and without telling people why they were being arrested. It appears that people have been arrested who were not involved in the disturbances. For example, Amnesty International has received reports that soldiers have carried out mass arrests and have visited homes at night and arrested all teenagers present. Many detainees in all parts of the occupied territories have been held incommunicado. Some were denied ac-

cess to lawyers or their families for up to two weeks. Defendants in the occupied territories have been denied basic rights in summary trials held in late December and January. Before lawyers decided to boycott the trials, defence lawyers complained that they were not given enough time to prepare their cases, were not given details of the charges before the court hearing, were not told of the date of the trial, and were not always allowed to see their clients beforehand. Trials in Gaza and the West Bank continued after the boycott by lawyers; defendants, including fourteen and fifteen-year-olds, were tried and convicted without being represented at all.

Detention of local leaders

For many years Amnesty International has been concerned about the administrative detention or restriction to towns or villages of political activists in the occupied territories. They have included journalists, students, members of trade unions, women's and human rights organisations. Amnesty International has repeatedly expressed to the Israeli government its concern that in general administrative detention orders and town arrest orders can be (and in Amnesty International's opinion have been) abused to detain people for the non-violent exercise of their right to freedom of opinion and expression, and that the judicial review at military court hearings is inadequate to prevent such abuse. Amnesty International has also expressed concern that those detained or restricted by such orders are routinely not given full and precise details of the reasons for the order or the evidence on which the order is based, which makes it impossible to challenge the order effectively.

Detainees tortured

During the past year Amnesty International has been concerned about an increasing number of reports of ill-treatment and torture of detainees in the occupied territories, to extract information or confessions or to harass and intimidate. These allegations have been made against members of the Israeli army who carry out arrests and administer the detention centres of Al Fara'a and Dhahiriya in the West Bank and "Ansar 2" in Gaza, and against the General Security Service who conduct interrogations in regular prisons in the occupied territories and in the detention centres.

Amnesty International has received numerous reports, including affidavits, that detainees have been beaten, kicked and punched on arrest and while being taken into custody. Interrogation methods described by former detainees have included hoodings, beatings all over the body includ-

ing the head and genitals, falaqa (beatings on the soles of the feet), being hung by a rope from the ceiling and swung from wall to wall, prolonged exposure to cold weather or air conditioning, solitary confinement for between two and 15 days, prolonged sleep deprivation, and verbal abuse and threats. In December two detainees in Al Fara'a alleged in affidavits that they had been subjected to electric shocks. Some official investigations have been carried out following complaints of ill-treatment. For example, in November six soldiers were convicted of ill-treating detainees in "Ansar 2" and an inquiry has been ordered into interrogation methods in Al Fara'a, although the findings of the investigation are not known. However, lawyers say that complaints of torture or ill-treatment submitted on behalf of their clients are often ignored — this reportedly happened when lawyers drew the authorities' attention to the affidavits concerning the use of electric shocks — or not thoroughly investigated.

Amnesty International has details of several cases where lawyers or their clients have been subjected to measures designed to intimidate them after they made complaints. Since 1986 Amnesty International has urged the authorities to carry out a thorough investigation of eleven sample cases where detailed complaints of ill-treatment had been made, but to date Amnesty International has received only one reply from the authorities as to whether such investigations have been conducted. Where investigations have taken place, the lawyers have not been satisfied that they were thoroughly conducted.

Every effort should be made to exclude the use of firearms... In general, firearms should not be used except when a suspected offender offers armed resistance or otherwise jeopardises the lives of others and less extreme measures are not sufficient to restrain or apprehend the suspected offender.



Mass arrests of Palestinian youth

7. Impartially and effectively investigate all complaints and reports of torture of detainees. The methods and findings of such investigations should be made public. The highest authorities of the Israeli government should make clear to all law enforcement personnel that torture and ill-treatment will not be tolerated. They should be informed that this prohibition is unconditional and, as stated in the U.N. Declaration against Torture, exceptional circumstances such as a state of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency may not be invoked as a justification of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The rules of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflict confirm the prohibition.

formed of the reasons for the arrest. Accurate information concerning the whereabouts of detainees should be made available as soon as possible to relatives and lawyers.

5. Guarantee that everyone should have adequate time and facilities for the preparation of their defence and prompt and regular access to counsel of their choosing; and that everyone should have the opportunity to examine and have examined the prosecution witnesses and to obtain the attendance and examination of defence witnesses under the same conditions.

6. Prevent anyone from being administratively detained or restricted on account of their non-violent political activity, and without being informed of the evidence against them.



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## Liverpool nudges 14-year-old record with 1-0 win over QPR

LONDON (R) — Liverpool, whose only challenge to their supremacy has come from the ghosts of champions past, moved within one game of Leeds United's 14-year-old English First Division record Saturday.

A 1-0 victory at Queen's Park Rangers, John Barnes scoring after 36 minutes, took Liverpool's unbeaten League run since the opening Saturday last August to 28 games, one short of Leeds' unsurpassed start to the 1973-74 season.

With a 17-point lead over second-placed Manchester United, plus the added cushion of two games in hand, Liverpool can be expected to complete their 10th championship triumph in 16 years some time before the end of the campaign on May 7.

United fell 1-0 at Norwich, Robert Fleck scoring the only goal in the 76th minute, and third-placed Nottingham Forest remained a distant 20 points in arrears after a single goal victory at Sheffield Wednesday, courtesy of England midfielder Neil Webb.

While such dominance may be bad for the game as a whole, it at least encourages the romantic notion that Liverpool could go through the entire League season undefeated.

Having amassed 72 points from 23 games, Liverpool are quoted at 5-2 by London bookmakers to survive the remaining 12 matches with their unbeaten run intact — a possibility which can even bring a smile of pleasure to the face of player-manager Kenny Dalglish. "The novelty of winning never wears off with us," he said. "No one has been able about winning since I joined the club and I doubt if anyone ever was before then."

Liverpool have a well-publicised distrust of Queen's Park Rangers' artificial pitch and it took them 30 minutes to adjust to the high bounce provided by the plastic surface.

But their command became increasingly apparent and they moved in front when England colleagues Peter Beardsley and

Barnes combined to typically deadly effect.

Beardsley wriggled clear on the edge of the penalty area, slipped the ball to Craig Johnston — a late replacement for the injured John Aldridge — and when QPR goalkeeper David Seaman parried the Australian's shot, Barnes pounced to prod the ball into the empty net.

With Manchester United stumbling to another surprise defeat, Brian Clough's young Forest side remained the likeliest looking runners-up after a typically efficient win at Sheffield Wednesday.

Webb struck the only goal with a crisp low cross shot after 14 minutes and thereafter Forest set-

dom allowed Wednesday a glimmer of a chance to draw level.

### Scottish League

Glasgow rivals Celtic and Rangers continued their dogfight at the top of the Scottish Premier League with smooth wins against moderate opposition.

League leaders Celtic beat Falkirk 2-0 with goals from Andy Walker and Mark McGhee, while Rangers, beaten 2-0 by Steaua Bucharest in the European Cup in midweek, gained some consolation against Dunfermline.

Returning to the scene of their shock Scottish Cup exit two weeks ago, Rangers won 3-0 with goals from Ally McCoist — who underwent a cartilage operation just 11 days ago — former Aston Villa striker Mark Walters and Scotland defender Richard Gough.

With nine games remaining, Celtic enjoy a six-point advantage.

LONDON (R) — English football league table after Saturday's matches.

### English Division One

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Liverpool	28	22	6	0	66	12	72
Manchester United	30	15	10	5	44	29	55
Nottingham Forest	27	15	7	5	51	24	52
Everton	28	15	7	6	40	16	52
Arsenal	28	14	6	8	43	26	48
Queens Park Rangers	29	13	7	9	33	31	46
Wimbledon	29	12	9	8	42	32	45
Tottenham	30	10	9	11	30	32	39
Luton	27	11	5	11	40	34	38
Southampton	30	9	10	11	37	41	37
Newcastle	29	9	10	10	35	41	37
Sheffield Wednesday	30	11	4	15	34	49	37
West Ham	29	7	12	10	30	37	33
Norwich	29	9	6	14	27	34	33
Coventry	28	8	9	11	31	42	33
Chelsea	30	8	8	14	38	53	32
Derby	29	7	9	13	24	33	30
Portsmouth	29	6	12	11	27	46	30
Oxford	28	6	8	14	33	54	26
Charlton	30	5	10	15	28	47	25
Watford	29	5	8	16	18	38	23



MOMENT OF PRIDE: Royal Jordanian Silk Cut team members His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein and Ali Bilal were awarded a trophy at the Marriott Jerash Rally prize-giving ceremony Friday evening at the Royal Automobile Club. The team won the rally for the second year in a row. Prince Abdullah also won best in class 34 and was winner of Group B competition (Photo by Bill Lyons).

## TENNIS

### Maleeva crushes Sukova

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (R) — Fourth seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria upset Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia Friday in the semi-final round of the \$200,000 U.S. Women's Hardcourt Tennis Championships.

Maleeva, ranked 13th in the world, eliminating the second seeded Sukova 6-3, 6-7 (4-7), 6-4.

"She stayed very close to the net," said Maleeva, who will play in her first final since October. "I had good lobs against her and it was not that difficult to do since she stayed so close to the net."

Maleeva, who is now 4-2 against Sukova in matches, broke the Czech's serve to go up 5-3 in the final set.

Sukova broke back and closed to 5-4 but Maleeva broke Sukova in a love game to earn a shot at the \$400,000 first prize.

But Maleeva will have to face a tough opponent — West German Steffi Graf, the top-ranked women's player in the world.

Graf won her 25th consecutive match with a hard-fought two-hour struggle against third seeded American Lori McNeil 6-7 (2-7), 6-1, 6-1.

"I was just playing horrible," said Graf. "I had a bad day today and came into the match with a negative attitude. It took me a long time to realise what I was doing. I will try to relax and play better tomorrow."

In the first set, McNeil broke Graf three times. Neither player held service during the final three games as the set went into a 12-point tie-breaker.

In the second and third set, Graf found her game as she smashed hard volleys and passing shots from the baseline.

In doubles play, McNeil and

Sukova seeded number one, fought off Larisa Savchenko and Natalia Svereva of the Soviet Union 4-6, 7-5, 6-1.

They will meet second seeded American Gretchen Magers and South Rosalyn Fairbank, who defeated France's Isabelle Demongeot and Nathalie Tauziat 6-4, 6-4.

Maleeva beats Novotna

WICHITA, Kansas (AP) — Top-seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria forced No. 6 seed Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia into a baseline game to post a quarter-final victory Friday night in the \$100,000 Virginia Slims of Kansas tennis tournament.

Maleeva defeated Novotna 6-3, 5-7, 7-5 in a match that lasted two hours and 44 minutes and included a 22-minute game in the second set. Maleeva was up 5-2 in the second set when Novotna broke her serve and began to play more consistently.

Third-seeded Sylvia Hanika of West Germany needed a tie-breaker to defeat Peanut Louie Harper of the United States 2-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3 in an earlier quarter-final match.

Svetlana Parkhomenko of the Soviet Union defeated her doubles partner, Natalia Bykova of the Soviet Union, 7-5, 4-6, 6-2. Hester Witvoet of the Netherlands beat Pascale Paradis of France 6-4, 6-4.

Maleeva will play Parkhomenko and Hanika will meet Witvoet in semifinal matches Saturday.

In quarterfinal doubles matches Friday night, the top-seeded team of Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia and Catherine Suire of France defeated Nathalie Herremann of France and Pascale

Paradis of France 6-3, 7-5.

### Becker, Cash reach semifinals

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (R) — West German Boris Becker will play American Andre Agassi and Pat Cash of Australia will face Emilio Sanchez of Spain in Saturday's semifinal round of the \$702,500 Champions Cup tennis tournament.

On Friday, eighth seeded Sanchez scored the day's biggest upset over second seeded Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia, 2-6, 6-0, 6-3 in the quarterfinals.

Mecir, ranked four, played a confident first set against Sanchez to win it 6-2, but the 18th ranked Spaniard increased the power on his shots in the second set, exhausting Mecir by moving him around the court.

The tactic worked as Sanchez reeled off 11 straight games, winning the second set 6-0 and breaking Mecir twice to lead 5-0 in the third.

At 5-1, with the match apparently in hand, Sanchez suddenly became nervous and choked away four match points on his own serve, the last on a double fault.

Mecir held at love in the eighth game but Sanchez did not squander his second chance to serve out the match, winning 6-3 with an ace.

"When you have to win against a player who's not going to miss, it's very difficult," said Sanchez who struggled at first to break the rhythm of the steady Mecir.

"When I started to move him around in the second set, he got very red and tired."

### Jansher to face Norman in squash semifinals

MADRID (R) — World squash number one Jansher Khan Friday set up a Spanish Open semifinals clash with former world champion Ross Norman of New Zealand. Top seeded Jansher had to work harder than usual for his 9-3, 9-6, 9-4 quarter-final success over Rodney Martin. The Australian produced some fine volleys, but threw away his chances by hitting the tin with 14 shots in the last two games. World champion Jansher, who toppled fellow Pakistani Jahangir Khan from the number one spot at the turn of the year, is playing brilliantly and told Reuters he was confident about taking on Norman Saturday. "But you don't know what will happen," he said. Fourth-seed Norman dropped the second game of his quarter-final against Umar Hayat Khan of Pakistan, but made the most of a timing opponent to win 9-5, 3-9, 9-5, 9-1. Norman has played Jansher, 11 years his junior, three times. He has yet to beat him, although he has twice taken the Pakistani to five games. "He's playing well and he's got speed on his side," Norman said. Jahangir Khan surprisingly dropped a game in a hard, fast match against Del Harris of Britain before reaching the semifinals with a 9-1, 9-0, 4-9, 9-5. Jahangir lost concentration after taking the first two games in less than 10 minutes each and hit five shots into the tin in the third as the 18-year-old Briton produced some brilliant shots just above it. Harris went ahead 5-4 in the fourth game before Jahangir reasserted himself. He will now face sixth-seeded Australian Chris Robertson, who made the most of his speed and stamina to knock out compatriot Chris Dittmar, the third seed, 2-9, 9-6, 9-4, 9-7 in a match that lasted just over an hour.

### 10 more Oaks entries discovered

LONDON (R) — Another 10 horses were added Friday to the list of entries for the Epsom Oaks after an error was discovered. The total for the Fillies' Classic in June now stands at 145 — still 20 per cent down on last year. Weatherbys, who collated the list issued Thursday, discovered they had not received all the Irish entries. United Racecourses, who own Epsom, said there had been an "error in transmission." Entries for the Derby, the other Epsom Classic, have also dropped, to 174 from 208 last year. The Racehorse Owners Association Thursday blamed the decline on higher entry fees, but the Epsom organisers argued they were in line with the current trend for major European races.

### FIFA chief: France has chance to host 1998 World Cup

PARIS (R) — International Football Federation (FIFA) president Joao Havelange said Friday that France stood "every chance" of hosting the 1998 World Cup. Havelange was speaking after a meeting with Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, who claimed at a recent political rally that his country would definitely stage the event in 10 years time. Havelange said that as a FIFA founder-member and the country which created the World Cup, "France has rights, has every possibility, every chance" of holding the 1998 finals. The FIFA president, implying he would support a French candidacy, said it had been 50 years since the country had hosted the World Cup. Chirac's claim came two weeks ago at a rally supporting his campaign in the presidential elections starting next month. He said France had won the right to stage the cup during negotiations with Havelange. A FIFA spokesman the next day denied a decision had been taken, saying an announcement would be made in 1992.

### Kendall extends contract with Bilbao

BILBAO, Spain (R) — Athletic Bilbao's British coach Howard Kendall has extended his contract with the Spanish First Division club for another year, ending speculation that he would be moving to coach Barcelona. A Bilbao spokesman told Reuters Friday that Kendall, who joined the club from English champions Everton at the start of this season on a two-year contract, had signed for a further year and would now stay until June 1990. British and Spanish press reports had suggested Kendall would be moving to Barcelona next season. Bilbao is fourth in the League, 10 points behind leaders Real Madrid, while ninth-placed Barcelona is having a poor season. Kendall said last month he had been approached by Barcelona but would not take up their offer as Bilbao had been good to him and he did not want to leave them in a state of uncertainty. Barcelona had offered him the job on two previous occasions, but both times the Catalan team's then-coach, compatriot Terry Venables, decided to stay on.

## Drechsler retains long jump title

BUDAPEST (R) — East German Heike Drechsler waited until her penultimate leap to stamp her authority on the women's long

jump and retain her European indoor women's title Saturday.

Drechsler, the world indoor champion and record holder, had trailed Galina Christakova of the Soviet Union for most of the competition but then produced an explosive leap of 7.30 metres to snatch the lead with the fifth of her six attempts.

Christakova had leaped 7.24 metres with her second attempt to hold the lead until Drechsler produced her winning jump. The tall East German waited anxiously until the scoreboard confirmed she had taken the lead, then indulged in a brief victory dance.

Christakova finished second and Poland's Jolanta Bartczak took the bronze with 6.62 metres.

Drechsler, who improved her own world record to 7.37 in Vienna last month, told reporters afterwards that she had not felt worried at any stage of the competition.

"My last three jumps are always my best," Drechsler said. "I wasn't disappointed to be trailing, I believe I'm more relaxed than last year."

Drechsler, European champion in both the long jump and 200 metres, had to settle for a bronze medal in the World Championships long jump last year and second place in the 100 metres.

On Saturday she confirmed she would compete in the long jump at the Seoul Olympics but was keeping her options open on which sprint events she would contest.

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## British industrial team begins Jordan visit soon

LONDON (LPS) — Britain's largest engineering trade association, the Engineering Industrial Association (EIA), is sponsoring a trade mission visit to Jordan from March 19-22.

The association, which has some 3,000 members, has been responsible for more than 100 mission over the past ten years, and export orders generated by its members over the past five years come to £2 billion.

This will be the association's first trade mission to Jordan. It will include 13 companies and the products represented include industrial gases, electronic components and spares, mechanical seals and power transmission couplings, pumps, auto-electrical replacement parts, low voltage electrical distribution equipment, machine and hand tools, and lighting equipment.

Also taking part are a chemical manufacturer on first visit to both Iraq and Jordan; and an ophthalmic and respiratory product maker who will visit Iraq for the first time but it is well-known in Jordan. The mission leader and secretary is the EIA Director General Bill Williams.

## JEA working on supplying power to Risha gas fields

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) is carrying out a project involving laying cables from Al Azraq transformer station to Risha natural gas fields near the Iraqi border, the Al Ra'i Arabic daily said Saturday. The paper said that the 230-kilometre line was needed to supply power to the installations at the gas fields. The project entails setting up two smaller transformer stations to feed villages and towns along the

line; and these will be set up at Safawi and Rweished, according to the paper. Work on the project is expected to be completed by the middle of 1989.

JEA sources were quoted by the paper as saying that part of the cost of the JD 6 million project would be covered through sale of phosphate since part of the grid — a stretch of about 52 kilometres — would link a JEA transformer station at Maan to the Shidieh phosphate mines.

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — Trading was moderate Saturday as an overall 630,298 shares changed hands for a volume of JD 476,053 spread over 445 contracts.

Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries topped the list in every category as 283,900 of its shares were traded for a value of JD 73,129 covered by 110 contracts.

Credit and Finance Corporation ranked in second place with 110,200 shares changing hands for a volume of JD 63,160 but the number of contracts was only 12.

Shares of 45 companies were traded Saturday but only seven companies (excluding the two aforementioned firms) exceeded the JD 20,000 mark.

Prices were all steady without any company registering more than 50-fils range between the high and low quoted price.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 1988

## YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Camel Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** If you have been at odds with some close friends, this would be a good time to get together and clear the air. Use precision and care in dealing with financial matters. Maintain a calm demeanor.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19):** Try to be more cooperative with your business associates, and you can all progress more quickly. Let your superiors see your talents.

**Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20):** Find a way to make your daily routines more productive, and also more enjoyable. Invite a few friends to your home for the evening.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21):** Indulge yourself with some of your favorite pleasures today. Use your creative talents to further brighten a very memorable and happy day.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21):** Straighten out any difficulties with your family, and make your home life more harmonious. Drive with the utmost care.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21):** Be wary of missing any important appointments which you may have forgotten. Don't become involved with any strangers tonight.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22):** If you need some financial advice,

listen only to those persons who are reliable and successful. Enjoy a nice evening with your family.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** This is a time when you can be quite successful at almost anything you attempt, so don't be afraid to explore new avenues of expression.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** Try to gain the information which can make some secret wish a reality. The truth would be very helpful in improving the situation at home.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** If you have agreed to share some work with a friend, stick to your word or risk alienating this person. Get plenty of rest tonight.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20):** You can make some valuable new contacts, and also improve your self-esteem by getting involved in some charitable civic affair.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19):** A few of your good friends need your help to make a project successful, so volunteer your services. This evening should be a happy one.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20):** Your intuition is working quite well at this time, so take advantage of that situation. Be more thoughtful and kind to your mate.

## THE Daily Crossword

by Joanne Wilson

**ACROSS**

- 1 Spar
- 5 FBI's pet
- 9 Sacred song
- 14 Earthy jar
- 15 Mosque priest
- 18 Pumpkin
- 17 Mr. King
- 19 Zulu word
- 20 Long tales
- 22 Frustrated?
- 23 Thunder
- 24 Rude's spouse
- 25 Actor's hint
- 26 Kind of boom
- 27 Scooter boy?
- 32 Patriotic org.
- 33 Cheap bet
- 35 Grave
- 36 Little hole
- 38 Deceased
- 40 Singles
- 41 Day "cheese"
- 42 Plus item
- 46 Flying field?
- 48 Seesaw
- 50 Uno, duo, ...
- 51 Boston NBA team
- 52 Kind of show
- 53 "Gummi"
- 54 "Santa" — (fl. song)
- 55 Principal
- 56 China
- 57 Upper air
- 58 Kind of Claves
- 59 Golden or fatted
- 65 Outlandish
- 66 Homeowner's paper
- 67 Let it stand

**DOWN**

- 1 Temper
- 2 — brave
- 3 Mistress
- 4 Imp
- 5 Backed
- 6 Gnomes
- 7 Country road
- 8 "I — Camera"
- 9 Light colors
- 10 Wound mark
- 11 Jason's ship
- 12 Author
- 13 O'Flaherty
- 14 Drs.
- 15 Weather word
- 16 — genera
- 17 Ana and Cod
- 18 Ragout of
- 19 Pleasant
- 20 Salsita's trip
- 21 Bear
- 22 Jack — of
- 23 "Barney" singer
- 24 Capt
- 25 Villain's looks
- 26 Galle
- 27 Writing spot
- 28 Fruit box
- 29 Pub drink
- 30 Cleared
- 31 Strump
- 32 Where river meets sea
- 34 Show and —
- 35 Anger
- 36 Morals
- 37 Michael of
- 38 Mike
- 39 Babe —
- 40 Yodeler's feedback
- 44 Outlook
- 45 A Fonda
- 46 Med. subj.
- 47 Unemployment
- 48 Arlo's digs
- 49 Bandleader
- 50 Browder
- 51 The — Hatter

## Jordanian dairies to use 75% of local milk in output

AMMAN — Jordanian dairies will this month raise the ratio of locally produced milk in their products to 75 per cent, up from 50 per cent, according to Ministry of Agriculture's Animal Health and Production Department Director Adoub Asali.

He said that a ministry committee had earlier recommended that local dairy products should consist of 100 per cent of locally produced milk, but for technical reasons this was not feasible.

Asali was quoted by Al Ra'i newspaper as saying that, in accordance with the committee's report, the total quantity of locally produced milk used by dairies now stands at 48 tonnes daily during winter and could go up to a maximum of 66 tonnes in summer.

### Limited market

If more cows are imported into the country to enable the local firms to include 100 per cent of local milk in their products, considerable quantities of milk, cheese, yoghurt and labaneb will be left unmarketed because the Jordanian market is limited, according to Asali.

He said that for local firms to use 100 per cent local milk in their products, no less than 4,000 heads of cows would have to be imported.

Asali estimated Jordan's annual consumption of milk at 120,000 tonnes of which 60,000 tonnes is produced in Jordan.

He estimated the total number of cows in Jordan to be 135,000.

## Senior Swiss officials to hold talks in Jordan this month

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian-Swiss Economic Committee will open a meeting in Amman March 25 to discuss prospects of increasing the volume of trade between Jordan and Switzerland.

The Swiss delegation to the meeting, which groups senior officials from the ministry of national economy in Switzerland, is due here March.

The government had earlier formed Jordan's delegation to the meeting to be led by Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary-General Mohammad Saqqaf.

Jordan and Switzerland are linked by an agreement, signed in 1976, designed to promote economic and trade ties between the two countries.

Switzerland has already offered Jordan easy-term loans totalling JD 15 million to finance development projects in the Kingdom.

## Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Feb. 27, '88 and ending Wednesday, March 2, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
<b>Banking and financial institutions</b>					
Industrial Development Bank	500	655	1.300	1.310	1.000
Petra Bank	36,597	73,774	2.050	2.050	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	614	1,084	1.800	1.760	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	30,35	4,841	1.600	1.600	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	1,852	2,253	1.200	1.200	1.000
Housing Bank	1,450	2,320	1.610	1.600	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	2,474	74,140	29.000	30.000	5.000
Bank of Jordan	51,24	83,572	16.320	16.310	5.000
Arab Bank	250	296,25	118.500	118.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	77,25	18,777	2.430	2.430	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	250	290	1.200	1.200	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	29,160	39,598	1.860	1.850	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	39,327	23,757	0.620	0.610	1.000
National Financial Investments	24,800	39,914	1.550	1.660	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	23,502	18,843	0.810	0.810	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
<b>Insurance and reinsurance</b>					
Jordan French Insurance	14,456	8,8603	6.000	5.900	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	17,145	17,145	1.000	1.000	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	350	238	0.690	0.680	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	60	77	1.280	1.280	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Universal Insurance	39,501	2,852	0.740	0.730	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Al-Izdihar Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	1,500	1920	1.280	1.280	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
<b>Services and industries</b>					
General Investments	49,50	6,498	1.300	1.330	1.000
Imra for Investment and Financial Facilities	500	310	0.620	0.620	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	19,050	8,382	0.440	0.440	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	8,630	3,711	0.430	0.420	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	33,461b	110,421	0.330	0.330	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	7,578	5,077	0.650	0.670	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	34,356	5,904	0.690	0.670	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeeco	14,400	4,669	0.830	0.820	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	3,591	5,314	1.470	1.480	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	666	641	0.980	0.960	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	27,900	24,788	0.870	0.870	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	46,350	18,902	0.410	0.400	1.000
Jordan Dairy	18,583	18,999	1.030	1.020	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	6,431	13,404	2.080	2.120	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	210,078	30,7890	1.530	1.500	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	282	917	2.400	2.400	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inaj)	5922	8,988	1.490	1.500	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	18,39	7,941	4.360	4.350	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	45,600	61,628	1.340	1.380	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	350,65	66,728	1.930	1.900	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	38,57	41,09	1.060	1.050	1.000
Chemical Industries	46,485	77,828	1.660	1.720	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	22,250	16,136	0.730	0.720	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	630	926	1.470	1.470	1.000
National Steel Industries	42,600	118,277	2.800	2.730	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	50,100	96,011	1.960	1.810	5.000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	7,903	56,168	7.120	7.100	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	34,5900	79,598	0.230	0.240	1.000
National Industries	120	600	0.510	0.500	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	4,000	1,380	0.350	0.350	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	32,945	44,445	1.330	1.320	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	4,056	3,000	0.720	0.740	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	6,486	7,651	1.170	1.180	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	10,650	31,712	3.000	3.030	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	35,850	24,070	0.680	0.660	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	250	217	0.850	0.860	1.000
Jordan Tanning	267	509	1.950	1.900	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	46,800	47,736	1.020	0.990	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	9,421	8,759	0.930	0.930	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	38,109	103,311	2.990	2.970	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	57,828	61,079	1.030	1.040	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	8,239	8,539	1.050	1.030	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Grand total	1,816,504	1,997,271			

## Amman stock exchange expects boost in trading

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Amman Financial Market (AFM) hopes a two-hour extension in its weekly working hours will increase by 25 per cent the average trading in shares, AFM Director General Hashem Sabbagh said Saturday.

Sabbagh told reporters the extra one hour (5 to 6 p.m.) Tuesdays and Wednesdays, beginning March 8, were expected to increase foreign and expatriate investments in the Jordanian stock exchange.

The extension, which does not include trading in the parallel market or government bills and treasury bonds, "will increase activity in the market and allow more people, who are busy during morning hours, to invest in the market," Sabbagh said.

He said the volume of trading for the first nine weeks of this year had been similar to that of the same period in 1987, which registered the highest volume of trading in the history of the 10-year-old AFM.

"This reflects the Jordanian citizen's increased confidence in the market and the Jordanian economy," Sabbagh said. "We are very optimistic."

He said the additional market hours should allow more investors in the United States and Arab Gulf states to monitor prices through wire services and to trade in Jordanian stocks (through an easier adjustment to the difference in time zones).

He pointed out to a growing interest by foreign investors in the stock market which he said reflected an increased confidence in the strength of the AFM.

He declined to give a figure on foreign investments in Jordanian stocks but said the figures did not

exceed "few million dollars," mainly from U.S. and Far Eastern investors, including Singapore.

The AFM's daily trading average during the past week rose to over JD 400,000 based on a total volume of over JD 2 million throughout the week. Last Sunday was a peak day when the volume of trade reached JD 5 million.

Sabbagh said he did not expect the 12-week-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories to have any adverse effect on the trading activity in the Amman market. "If anything, it should increase investment (in the AFM) by West Bankers," he told reporters.

Trading in the regular and parallel markets reached an unprecedented JD 148 million in 1987, the highest volume since 1978.

The AFM, in coordination with the Central Bank of Jordan, has started trading in government bills and treasury bonds through its agents under a new mechanism facilitated by the Reuters news agency. The trading is done outside the market's floor for investment and commercial banks and on the floor for other investors.

All trading has to be registered at the AFM, which charges a 20 per cent commission on the 0.2 per cent of the total charge on the value of each deal levied on each deal. The remainder goes to brokers.

## IMF says debtor states spurning export credits

WASHINGTON (AP) — Debtor countries are spurning subsidised loans despite more offers by industrial countries to push the sale of their goods, according to an International Monetary Fund (IMF) report.

The U.S. government's Export-Import Bank, which handles the subsidised lending for the United States, says France has been the biggest source of such credits in recent years. The United States is second, followed by Japan, Britain, and West Germany.

"For some (debtor) countries, cutbacks may have reflected a desire to limit the increase of external indebtedness," the re-

port said. Total debt of Third World countries is expected to reach \$1.245 trillion by the end of this year.

The report suggested that other borrowers have been so short of cash that they do not have the resources to support new projects.

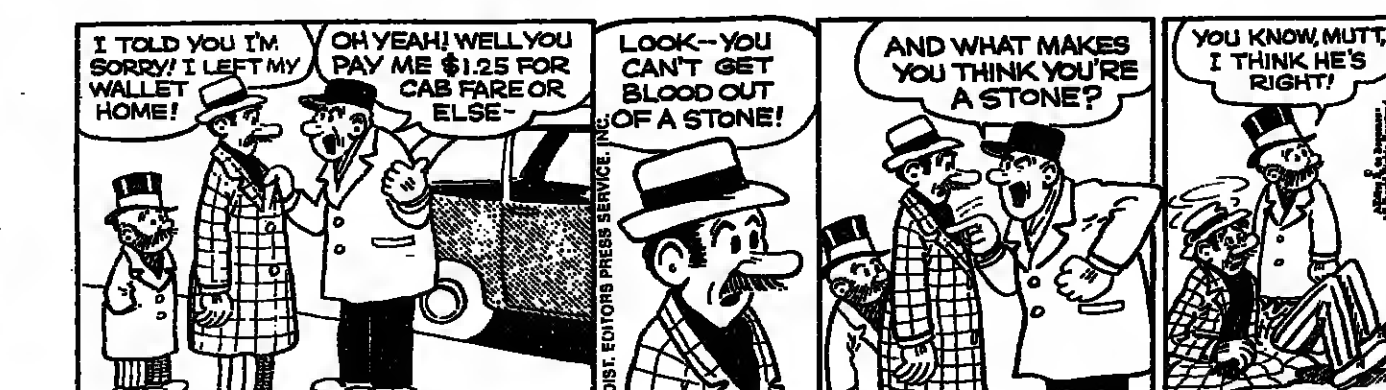
It said one government's credit agency is debating a substantial cut in staff, and another is cancelling some of its weekly meetings because there were no applications to consider.

Subsidised export credits are often given for big items such as the sale of jet aircraft and, until recent years, nuclear power plants.

## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff





## Pakistan suggests delaying signing of Afghan pact

RAWALPINDI (Agencies) — The Pakistani government met its political opponents Saturday to try to work out joint policy on the Afghan conflict and suggested delaying the signing of a peace accord.

An official spokesman said they might have to meet for another day.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo presided over a meeting of 19 politicians invited to evolve a national consensus on a possible settlement of the nine-year-old guerrilla war in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Moscow offered last month to start withdrawing its estimated 115,000 troops from Afghanistan May 15 if Pakistan signed an agreement by March 15. Pakistan wants a neutral transitional government in Kabul before it signs any agreement.

Those at the talks included main opposition figure Benazir Bhutto, head of the nine-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) alliance.

A government spokesman said Junejo and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani briefed the politicians but details of the talks were not immediately available.

Information Minister Abdul Mujid Aidi said the meeting could continue until Sunday.

Noorani, who returned earlier in the day from Geneva and peace talks sponsored by the United Nations, suggested delaying the signing beyond Moscow's proposed March 15 date.

Noorani told reporters he had told Moscow through U.N. mediator Diego Cordovez that May 15 rather than March 15 was the important date.

Virtually all opposition leaders accepted Junejo's invitation to air their views on Afghanistan at the state guest house in Rawalpindi, a city adjacent to the federal capital.

It was the first time the Pakistani government had sought direct contact with its opposition since General Mohammad Zia Ul Haq had seized power.

A source close to the talks, speaking on condition of anonymity, said during Saturday's afternoon recess that most parties appeared to be urging the government not to delay signing an agreement on a Soviet troop withdrawal.

He said "one or two" of the 18 parties insisted Pakistan should first settle the political issue in support of Afghanistan's resistance.

The guerrilla alliance has proposed an interim government headed by guerrilla leaders, but the Kabul government has rejected it.

"There is a way in which a preparation period between the signing and the withdrawal could be reduced from 60 days... contemplated in the original draft," Noorani told reporters Saturday.

He said there had been no positive response from Moscow, which says putting off the signing would mean delaying the troop withdrawal.

An agreement was nearly complete on all four points of the proposed formal settlement after the Afghan government agreed this week to complete the troop withdrawal in nine months instead of the proposed 10 months.

The Kabul delegate also said half the Soviet force would leave in the first three months.

Creation of an interim government, which Pakistan calls a "second track," was not on the agenda at the Geneva talks.

## Landmine kills 19 Sri Lankans

COLOMBO (R) — A Tamil rebel landmine killed 19 Sri Lankans and wounded 17 Saturday in Trincomalee district, military officials said.

Officials in Trincomalee blamed guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for the explosion under a lorry at Sitaru, south of the port.

Military officials said the victims were returning home to Seruwila after weekend shopping at Kantalai.

The six women, 11 men, and two children killed were either Sinhalese — the majority in the Indian Ocean island — or Muslims. Officials said they would not know of any Tamil among the passengers.

Tiger rebels are fighting the Sinhalese-dominated government for a Tamil homeland in the north and east.

The Tigers shot dead 14 Sinhalese and a Tamil in Morawewa village near Trincomalee Wednesday.

Military officials thought the spate of killings was to sabotage government plans to resettle refugees in their villages.

"The refugees have been quietly coming back and the terrorists want to drive them away," a senior official said.

President Juvana Jayawardene pledged Saturday that more Sri Lankan troops would be sent to Trincomalee to protect Sinhalese from rebels.

## Azerbaijanis extend sympathy to riot victims

MOSCOW (R) — The leadership of Soviet Azerbaijan expressed sympathy Saturday with the families of 31 people killed in ethnic rioting between Armenians and Azerbaijanis in the coastal city of Sumgait.

A Kremlin envoy to troubled Transcaucasia meanwhile returned to Moscow and the daily Pravda said he had spoken to the Supreme Soviet, the country's parliament.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan and the republic's parliament and government ministers offered their sympathy to the Sumgait victims, the Baku newspaper Bakinsky Rabochy said Saturday.

It said the Azerbaijani leaders "expressed their deep condolences and profound sympathies with the relatives of those killed and with those who suffered in the riots of Sumgait."

An employee of the newspaper read the article to Reuters over the telephone from Baku, the capital of Soviet Azerbaijan. Newspapers from the Transcaucasian republic normally reach Moscow three or four days after they are published.

The Soviet news agency TASS confirmed Friday that 31 people of various nationalities died in the Feb. 28 rioting in Sumgait, a Caspian Sea port.

One resident of the city of 223,000 reached by telephone from Moscow said murders, rapes

and robberies occurred before troops stepped in to enforce a curfew Monday.

The TASS announcement brought the death toll to 33 in communal violence in Azerbaijan sparked by a dispute over demands for changing regional boundaries between the republic and its neighbour, Armenia.

The unrest began last month after the local parliament in Nagorno-Karabakh, a predominantly Armenian area Azerbaijan, voted for reunification with Armenia.

No violence has been reported in Armenia but hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated in Yerevan for several days in support of Nagorno-Karabakh's demand for reunification.

A Kremlin envoy sent last month to Nagorno-Karabakh to try to calm the situation spoke to the Supreme Soviet in Moscow Friday.

Pravda said that Petr Demichev, a member of the party's ruling politburo, had taken part in a discussion of "some other questions in state life" during the meeting but did not report any details of what he said.

Armenians who demonstrated in the streets of Yerevan carried banners calling for the Supreme Soviet to hold a special session to consider their demands.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has told two Armenian envoys that he will study the issue.

## U.S. officials want Soviets to table plans

WASHINGTON (AP) — American negotiators have complained "very forcefully" to the Soviets that Moscow has failed to submit key proposals in Geneva for a strategic arms reduction pact, jeopardising progress on an agreement the superpowers hope to sign at a summit, U.S. officials said Friday.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Soviet negotiators have yet to present draft proposals on verification and other thorny issues that need to be settled for a pact to cut strategic nuclear arsenals in half.

"What we're saying is that we're not getting the cooperation from Moscow that we need," said one official.

Another official said S. Read Hamner, the U.S. negotiator at the talks, "very forcefully raised this issue with the Soviets."

Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze agreed at a meeting in Moscow last month to speed work on verification problems and announced plans to meet in Washington March 22 to review the work.

One official said the Soviets also had declined to form working groups to discuss the issue until they provide the written proposals.

In a speech in St. Louis Thursday, Edward L. Rowny, an arms control adviser to President Ronald Reagan, said vast amounts of work need to be done on a strategic agreement, which Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev hope to sign at a summit meeting in Moscow in late spring.

Burns to head ACDA  
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Burns succeeds Kenneth Adelman, who left the administration shortly after last December's superpower summit.

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## 5 more killed in Punjab

AMRITSAR, India (Agencies) — At least five more people were killed in the strife-torn Indian state of Punjab where Sikh separatists massacred 34 villagers, mostly Hindus, Thursday night, Indian news agencies reported.

The new killings were reported as most big towns in Punjab were shut down by a general strike called by Hindu revivalist groups to protest against the carnage, the worst this year.

Reports said suspected Sikh gunmen shot dead three people in a village in Gurdaspur district Saturday morning and two extremists were killed in an encounter with security forces near Amritsar Friday night.

At least 317 people have been killed in Punjab this year compared with 1,200 last year and 640

in 1986. Police and political sources in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar and Chandigarh, the state capital, said all shops, offices, schools and colleges were closed in most of the big towns.

Thursday's attackers burst into the courtyard of a Hindu temple where Hindus, Sikhs and Christians had come together to celebrate "holi," the festival of light.

"People ran better skelter. There were bodies on the ground, and the injured were crying," said Mahavir Prashad, who was inside a building and escaped injury.

"I tried to save some of the injured by giving them water, but most of them died in my arms," he said.

## Violence halts full results of Bangladesh elections

DHAKA (Agencies) — The Bangladesh election commission Saturday halted the release of updated results from the parliamentary elections and a newspaper reported that new elections would be held in districts where violence stopped the voting.

The election provoked widespread violence in which at least 13 people were reported killed.

Election officials were unavailable to comment on why no new figures were released. The partial count gave President Hussain Mohammad Ershad's Jatiya Party a parliamentary majority, but the number of seats won by minor parties remained in doubt.

With results in from 220 of 299 seats that were voted Thursday, Jatiya candidates had won 195, including 18 in which party candidates ran unopposed because major opposition parties boycotted the balloting.

A coalition of 73 minor parties called the combined opposition parties won 13 seats, two small parties one each and independents 10.

The main opposition, which since November has been leading a campaign of strikes aimed at forcing Ershad to resign, said fair elections were impossible under his administration.

Ershad in December dissolved the old parliament in a move widely seen as intended to undermine the campaign against him.

Dainik Janata, a daily Bengali newspaper run by Ershad's family, reported Saturday that new elections would be held for 45 seats in districts where violence stopped polling. It said a recount of the vote was ordered in nine others.

The paper was the only Bangladesh daily to publish Saturday. The others took part in a one-day strike to protest restrictions on the press.

Reazuddin Ahmad, president of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, said papers were warned of possible closure if they printed stories or photographs of the violence. "This was contrary to the government's earlier promise," he said.

## COLUMN

### Nancy Reagan defends mastectomy decision

WASHINGTON (R) — First Lady Nancy Reagan said Friday she felt she made the right decision last year when she chose to have an entire breast removed rather than undergo a more limited operation. She said in a television interview that removal of only the malignant lump would have meant radiation treatment, which, she said, was out of the question because of the many public appearances a president's wife must make. She said she might have decided to have had only the cancerous lump removed if she were 20 years old and unmarried but "for me, now, this was right." Last October, at the time of her mastectomy, some women's groups criticised Mrs. Reagan's decision, saying it might scare women who could safely be treated by lumpectomy. She said she believed all women should watch for early signs of breast cancer so they would have time to consider a variety of choices. She said she had never suggested their choices should be the same as hers, removal of the entire breast. She joked that her mastectomy was not so big a loss for her as it would be for a large-busted woman like country singer Dolly Parton. She said she told the doctors not to wake her for consultation if they confirmed the lump in her breast was cancerous.

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## Ortega, rebels at loggerheads over mediator

MANAGUA (Agencies) — The Sandinista government and contra rebels appeared deadlocked over the issue of whether Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, mediator of two previous rounds of peace talks, would preside over the next session.

President Daniel Ortega offered Wednesday to negotiate directly with the contras inside Nicaragua. The talks mediated by Obando y Bravo, the Roman Catholic archbishop of Managua, had been held outside Nicaragua.

Direct talks, Ortega said, made Obando y Bravo's presence "unnecessary."

Also Friday, a contra spokesman in Washington said the rebels would release 13 people, including an American citizen,

who were abducted during a raid earlier this week as soon as a "trustworthy" Nicaraguan was found to return them to a safe location.

The members of the Witness for Peace organisation were abducted Tuesday during a contra attack in the village of Manacotal, deep in the mountains of Jinotega province.

Contra leaders agreed Thursday to meet the Sandinistas, but insisted that Obando y Bravo be present. A communiqué issued by the Nicaraguan Resistance, the contra umbrella group, called the cardinal's dismissal "unilateral and dictatorial."

In Miami, contra spokeswoman Maria Sacasa reiterated Friday that Obando y Bravo

should be present as "moderator, witness and guarantor" of the talks.

Observers said that the Sandinista's decision to reject the cardinal's mediation grew out of the cardinal's insistence that the peace talks include political issues.

Ortega has insisted that talks focus on the narrow issue of terms for a ceasefire, which he maintains is all that is required of him under terms of a peace agreement signed by himself and four other Central American presidents last August.

Diplomats said Managua's hargaining position in the talks was aided by the U.S. House of Representatives' rejection Thursday of the Democrats' aid package to provide the contras with \$30.5 million in non-lethal aid.

The two previous rounds of talks ended in stalemates as the Sandinistas demanded